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De Arte Phisicali et de Cirurgia

OF

MASTER JOHN ARDERNE, SURGEON OF NEWARK

Dated 1412.

SIR D'ARCY POWER, K.B.E.

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WELLCOME HISTORICAL MEDICAL MUSEUM.

RESEARCH STUDIES IN MEDICAL HISTORY.

No. 1.

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JOHN ARDERNE

From a Fifteenth Century Manuscript
in the British Museum, Sloane MS. 2002

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De Arte Phisicali et de Cirurgia

OF

MASTER JOHN ARDERNE, SURGEON OF NEWARK

Dated 1412.

TRANSLATED BY

Sir D'ARCY POWER, K.B.E., M.B.Oxon., F.R.C.S.,

FROM A TRANSCRIPT MADE BY

ERIC MILLAR, M.A.Oxon.,

From the Replica of the Stockholm Manuscript in the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum.

With Coloured Frontispiece and 15 Plates.

NEW YORK.
WILLIAM WOOD & CO.

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FOREWORD.

FROM the foundation of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum in 1913, it has been my intention to publish from time to time, accounts of the research work carried out on the objects, manuscripts and other documents of special interest and importance in the Museum. Owing to the Great War this work was interrupted and had to be suspended.

A short time ago, Sir D'Arcy Power, K.B.E., kindly undertook the laborious task of translating the interesting ancient manuscript of John Arderne of Newark, now in the Royal Library at Stockholm, which throws an important light on English surgery in the XIVth century.

We are much indebted to Mr. Eric Millar, M.A., for having made a careful transcription of the document and our warmest thanks are due to Sir D'Arcy Power for the painstaking and thorough manner in which he has carried out the translation, which forms the first volume of the series. I trust it will be found of value not only to those interested in English surgery of the period, of which so little is known, but that it will also serve to stimulate the study of the History of Medicine.

HENRY S. WELLCOME.

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PREFACE.

JOHN ARDERNE was born in 1307 and lived nearly to the end of the fourteenth century. He practised at Newark from 1349 until 1370, when he came to London and was probably admitted a member of the fraternity of surgeons. Nothing authentic is known about his early life but it is assumed from certain autobiographical details in his treatises, that before he settled at Newark he was a surgeon in the service of Henry Plantagenet, Earl of Derby and afterwards the first Duke of Lancaster. In this capacity he visited Antwerp in 1338, Algeçiras in Spain in 1343 and Bergerac in Aquitaine in 1347. The Duke died of the plague in 1361 and Arderne may then have attached himself to the Duke's son-in-law, John of Gaunt, who was called King of Castile and Leon in virtue of his marriage with Constance the daughter of Don Pedro I of Castile.

Arderne was essentially an operating surgeon whose practice lay amongst the nobility, wealthy landowners and the higher clergy. He was himself well educated though a layman and he met his patients on terms of equality. He was perfectly honest, knew himself to be a member of a serious profession and kept so open a mind that he says more than once, after stating his own practice "nevertheless do another man as him thinketh better."

He was a sound practical surgeon who carried out his work by methods which are not very different from those of the modern aseptic surgeon. He taught that wounds should heal without suppuration, that local applications to them should be as little irritating as possible and that the dressings should be infrequent. He cut boldly when necessary for he was not afraid of bleeding, and he had sufficient originality to invent the operation for the cure of fistula which, after falling into disuse for nearly five hundred years, is now universally employed. Theo-

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retically, he was well read in surgery and in the general literature of the day for he quotes the older writers and his contemporaries often verbatim. He must therefore have possessed, or have had access to, a well stocked library of manuscripts. But if he was centuries in advance of his time surgically he was no wiser than his time in medicine. His medical treatment was essentially that of the Saxon leeches, treatment by spells, herbs and nasty or innocuous substances. In such matters he had no critical faculty but believed what he was told regardless of its source. He was, too, somewhat of a pharmacist and his name lived longer in this connection than as a surgeon. Three of the preparations he invented appear in the second issue of the first Pharmacopœia of 1618 and some of them were certainly in use as late 1733.

Arderne issued his writings in the form of separate treatises one of which appeared in 1376 and another in 1377. They are in Latin and he says they were written with his own hand. The treatises were afterwards collected—seemingly after his death and by different persons and they were translated into English at various times in the fifteenth century. The existing manuscripts of his works therefore, contain different combinations of the treatises variously arranged. Some are the complete works like the magnificent copy on vellum which has such carefully executed illustrations that it is usually exhibited at the British Museum as an example of fourteenth century work. Others are poorly written paper manuscripts whilst others again are merely fragments, for they consist of a page or two of a treatise which by some accident has escaped destruction. The number of manuscripts still in existence show that Arderne's teaching had a considerable influence on English surgeons for many years after his death. It is remarkable therefore, that none of his work was printed until 1588, when John Read of Gloucester published an abridgement of the "Treatises on Fistula." The publication was made as part of a scheme undertaken by some of the Elizabethan surgeons to go back to original sources for their knowledge. Nothing came of it, however, and to this day the bulk of Arderne's work has not passed through the press.

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The manuscript which is here given is an epitome in Latin made some years after the death of Arderne. It omits much, adds something and takes out entirely the personal element and quaint touches which make the original manuscripts such excellent reading. It is in fact Arderne spoilt by his editor—a catastrophe which still happens to some medical writers of repute.

It has been known for some time that an illustrated manuscript of John Arderne's works was in the Royal Library at Stockholm. Dr. Edward Alin, of Stockholm, made an extract of the obstetrical portion which he published in the *Nordiskt Medicinskt Arkiv.* in 1899.*

Dr. E. Ingerslev, of Copenhagen, made use of the same part in his interesting and valuable study of Roesslin's "Rosegarten"† and later Professor Sudhoff gave a short account of the whole manuscript in the *Archiv f. Geschichte der Medizin.*‡

The Anatomical drawings in the centre column of Plates I, II, III, IV, and XIII, are especially interesting for they show that the writer had departed from the old five figure anatomy and had adopted the newer methods which are attributed to Henry de Mondeville. Professor Sudhoff has already copied them § and reference is made to them in Dr. Mortimer Frank's edition of "Choulant's History and Bibliography of Anatomic Illustration."‖ Speaking of these plates Dr. Frank says,¶ the first three pictures represent the osseous (Plate II, centre column), arterial and venous, (Plate I, centre column), and nervous (Plate III, centre column) systems, while the other two represent the thoracic and abdominal

* June 1899, No. 2, pp. 1 to 17, with Plates I–III.

† The *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynæcology of the British Empire*, Vol. xv, 1909, pp. 1-25 and 73-92.

‡ Vol. viii, 1914, p. 135. See also Sudhoff, *Studien zur Geschichte der Medizin*, Heft iv, Leipzig, 1908, p. 76.

§ The *Archiv für Geschichte der Medizin*, Band viii, Plates III and IV, Leipzig, 1915.

‖ Published at Chicago in 1920.

¶ Page 61.

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viscera (Plate IV, centre column, and Plate XIII), and the contents of the skull and face from the front (Plate IV) and back (Plate XIII) in a sagittal section through the median line.

The position of the arms and legs in four of the pictures differs from the frog-like posture of the late post Alexandrian series. The arms are brought nearer the sides of the trunk and the legs are placed closer together. The arms of one of the pictures (Plate IV, fig. 2) are bent at the elbow in such a way that they seem to hold apart the two split halves of the thoracic cavity. This and the visceral figure (Plate XIII) are entirely original and are without parallel in mediæval anatomical art and, as Sudhoff believes, are not based on tradition, whose power he says de Mondeville had destroyed. His theory is that the unknown person who inspired the artist had actually observed anatomical structures on the cadaver without comprehending much of it.

The picture of the blood vessels (Plate I, centre column) has many points in common with the Provençal drawing,* especially as regards the position of the kidneys, while the skeletal figure (Plate II, centre column) is quite imperfectly drawn and has nothing in common with the Provençal picture. The illustration representing the nerves (Plate III, centre column) resembles most closely the pen sketches of the Arabic nerve figures. It will be noted, however, that in the bisected figure forming Plate XIII the kidneys are in an approximately correct position when compared with the place assigned to them in Plate I.

Writing in 1909 Mr. Briscoe J. Potter says in his "Chapters of Nottinghamshire History," "Our interest in John Arderne was revived through a summer visit to Sweden in 1903 when we visited the Royal Library at Stockholm where there is an Arderne Manuscript of eight pages of vellum made into a roll about five yards in length."

The manuscript, therefore, although its existence was known, never seems to have excited much interest as a whole and it was certainly never transcribed in full or printed. In 1909, Mr. C. J.S.

* The thirteenth century Provençal MS. at Basel numbered D. II, 11.

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Thompson, M.B.E., Curator of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, when engaged on research work in the Royal Library at Stockholm examined it and, by the kindness of the Director, obtained such excellent photographs that it has been possible to transcribe nearly the whole of it. A replica, the exact size of the original is now in the Museum in London. The original is written on twelve skins of vellum which are sewn together to make a scroll 17 ft. 8 in. long by 15 in. wide. The writing is in three columns and is abundantly illustrated by coloured pictures, all being quaint, some artistic and many showing a sense of humour. The writing I judge to be of the early fifteenth century which agrees with the date of 1412 which has been added in the text by a later hand. Unfortunately, the history of this document cannot be traced to a period earlier than the middle of the eighteenth century, when it was discovered by Assessor Wessman on a journey he made in the Swedish province of Skane, between 1756 and 1758. It was purchased from him for the Royal Library at Stockholm where it still remains.

This is the traditional history of the manuscript. It may be altogether incorrect and, if so, there is a fascinating hypothesis to take its place. I have already said* that John Arderne seems to have seen service with Henry, Duke of Lancaster, and after his death in 1361, to have become attached to his son-in-law, John of Gaunt. Phillipa, the second daughter and seventh child of King Henry IV, was the granddaughter of John of Gaunt. She was born in 1394 and her mother, Mary, daughter of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, died in giving birth to her. Phillipa, in 1406, married Eric, King of the united Norway and Sweden, and went to live at Stockholm with a considerable retinue of English men and women. In 1412, when this manuscript was written, she was eighteen years of age, and she proved herself the capable and accomplished wife of a weak and licentious king. She died in 1430. I should like to think that this roll was sent her from England by some one who had known and loved the wise old

* See also Treatises of Fistula in Ano, Hæmorrhoids and Clysters, Early English Text Society's Publications, Original series, No. 139, pp. x-xiv.

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surgeon who had been so long in the service of her grandfather. By some one, too, who remembered the tragedy of her mother's death, as he caused Muscio's birth figures and instructions to midwives to be added to the manuscript, for they do not appear in any other collection of Arderne's writings with which I am acquainted. It might perhaps have been Sir Henry Scrope, the third Baron Scrope of Masham, who had escorted her to Stockholm on the occasion of her marriage, and Arderne says that he "cured a preste at Lincoln in the house of Master Geoffrey Scrope," uncle to this Lord Scrope of Masham. It was not unusual when a princess married a foreigner and went to live abroad for the doctors of her own country to send directions for her health. The Wellcome Historical Museum contains such a manuscript which was drawn up about 1315 for Queen Isabella, the wife of King Edward II of England. A Book of Hours which belonged to Phillipa is still preserved in the library at Copenhagen, for she was Queen of Denmark as well as of the united kingdoms of Norway and Sweden.

The manuscript was transcribed for me by my friend, Mr. Eric Millar, M.A.Oxon, F.S.A., from Mr. Thompson's photographic reproduction, and I am greatly indebted to Mr. Millar for the skilful manner in which he executed a very difficult task. I alone am responsible for the English version. Some of the writing is illegible from wear and tear, but in many cases I have obtained the sense, and in some instances the actual words from other manuscripts of Arderne's works. These interpolated passages are in square brackets and are printed in italics. Dr. W. S. A. Griffith and Dr. Herbert Spencer have very kindly supplemented my obstetrical ignorance by making sense of Muscio's Latin version of Soranus, so far as it is possible to do so. The text is corrupt in parts and is not identical with that of the Codex Hafniensis transcribed by Dr. Ingerslev either in the text or the birth figures.

May, 1922. D'ARCY POWER.

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PLATE I.

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To face p. 1

The practice of Master John Arderne of Newark in the art of Medicine and Surgery, 1412.

The practice of Master John Arderne of Newark in the art of medicine and surgery.

(I) John (Arderne) from the first plague that was in the year of the Lord thirteen hundred and forty-nine up to the year of the Lord fourteen hundred and twelve* lived at Newark in the county of Nottingham and there cured many of the following diseases.

First of the Hair†.—R. Take . . . part of unslaked lime and

Psilothrix.‡ (Plate I, fig. 1, left column.)

put it in water . . . . a fourth part of orpiment and put it . . . . and . . . . let a depilatory be made . . . . being rubbed. Mingle it with the aforesaid depilatory and they easily fall off with little [*scarring*?]. With oil of roses or violets or white of egg. Its infusion and . . . . and red sandal.

Lotion for the head. (Plate I, fig. 2, left side of column.)

With an . . . lard, in which it is cooked.

It colours the hair and soothes the head and relieves pain in . . . . The lye in which it is cooked is serviceable . . . . its broth . . . . and red sandal.

Broom flowers or box shavings with red marjoram commonly infused in plain water or vinegar [*removes the hair*].

To provoke sleep. (Plate I, fig. 3, left column.)

* Arderne was 70 in 1377 so that this date is clearly incorrect. It is probable that the manuscript was written in 1412 or even a few years earlier.

† The corresponding section of Bernard Gordon is in the second part of the Lilium medicinæ where, after treating of the physiology and pathology of the hair, he gives a depilatory of unslaked lime and orpiment.

‡ A depilatory.

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Let the patient be fumigated with the following:—R. mallows, chenopodium,* solatrum,† poppy leaves, lettuce and the infusion of Alder.

If this does not succeed, let his head, neck, arms, feet and hands be washed with several sleep compellers such as mandragora, storax or powdered opium placed on the patient's head.

If you wish to rouse him drop strong vinegar into his nostrils.

Against drunkenness. (Plate I, fig. 4, left column.)

R. Juice of white cabbage one part; juice of pomegranates one part; vinegar half a measure.

Boil to full ebullition and let an ounce be taken before drinking wine.

Also if any man is a drunkard put lignum aloes in his wine and let him drink it.

For Headache. (Plate I, fig. 5, left column.)—A cure.

If it is from the blood, and the age and the courage allows of it, cause him to be let blood from the vein which is betwixt the thumb and the index finger which is called the cephalick or let venesection be made on the shoulders or in the spaces which are round the instep.

Almansor, Serapion and Avicenna agree upon this cure for headache.

If the belly is to be relieved twice, or at any rate once, a day either let a glyster be given which is best, or, let the head of the patient be washed with decoctions of dill, camomile and roses.

Let the skin of the head be anointed with oil of dill and with oil of camomile mixed together.

For the same [*Turbith*]‡ is a proved remedy for headache, even if it has lasted a hundred years. . . . . They also cure inflamed

* Good Henry. † Nightshade.

‡ Turbith a large white resinous root with a starchy interior. Natural Order Convolvulaceae. Still used in India: given in powder ℈ii—℈iv, or in infusion from ʒi—ʒiii. "It is eminent," says Salmon ("The New London Dispensatory," ed. 1678, p. 19) "against chronic diseases as gouts, sciatica, dropsy, jaundice, French pox, scabs, elephantiasis and other breakings out. The powder with honey helps gangreens: given alone it is a slow purger and causeth loathing and vomiting and therefore it is corrected with pepper, ginger, cinnamon, mastick, carraways, etc. It is dangerous for children or women with child." It is much of the nature of hermodactyls.

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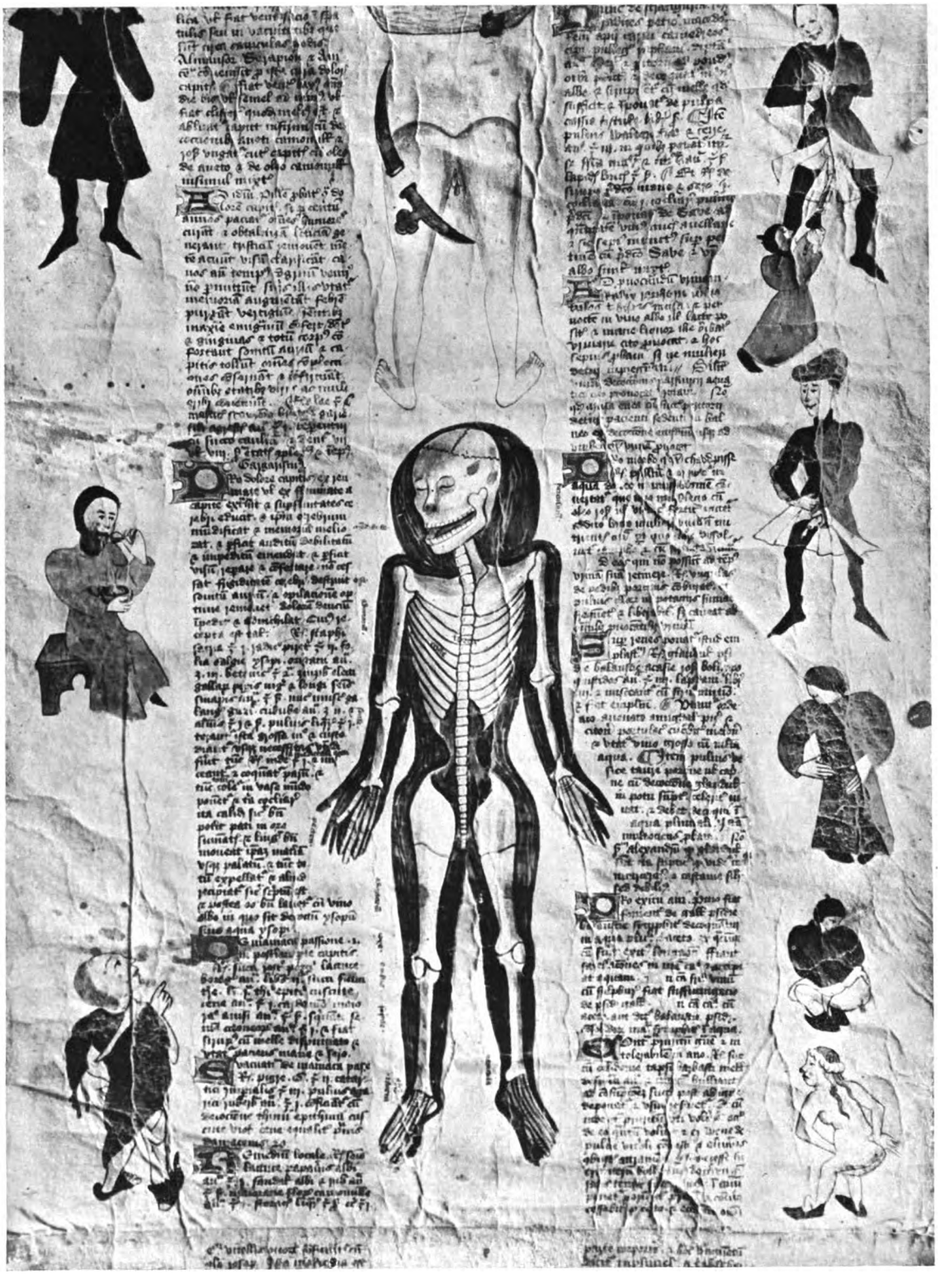
PLATE II.



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To face p. 3

eyes, engender . . . ., remove melancholy, sharpen the wits, clear the sight and do not allow white hairs to come before their time. If any one uses them they improve the memory, purge a fever (cure) giddiness; soothe the teeth and gums and comfort the whole body, take away tinnitus of the ears and noises in the head, preserve and confirm all complexions and agree with men and women at all ages.

R. Aloes ʒiv; mastiche; filic. agrestris ʒi.

Let them be tempered with cabbage juice and let six or eight be given according to age, complexion and time.

A Gargle.—For headache due to rheum or phlegm in the head (Plate II, fig. 1, left column) . . . . It brings out the superfluities of the brain; it cleanses even the brain itself and improves the memory. It helps hardness of hearing, cures stammering, helps to restore the sight and never ceases to comfort it; it destroys torpor of the brain, and is the best thing to remove noises in the ears and epilepsy; it prevents and stops the toothache. The prescription is as follows:—

Stavesacre ʒi; pellitory root ʒii; sage leaves, hyssop leaves and origanum āā. ʒiii; betony ʒii; ginger selected; galls; black pepper; (resin of) larch* ʒ½; mustard seeds ʒiv.

Then mix:—Galangal [*quad*† ?]; cubebs āā. ʒii . . . . ʒi½; liquorice powder ʒi.

Let them be rubbed together and preserved until they are wanted; then let them be moistened with ʒi of vinegar, mixed and infused awhile. Let the whole be filtered and put into a clean vessel. Let three spoonsfuls as hot as can well be borne be taken into the mouth and well rinsed round the palate by the tongue. Let it all be spat out and another dose be taken, as has just been described and let the mouth afterwards be well washed with white wine in which is decoct. hyssop, or with aqua hyssopi.

Of frensy i.e. at the back of the head. (Plate II, fig. 2, left column.)

R.:—Juice of . . . . lettuce; borage āā. lb. ii; of juice of

* Turpentine.

† Cyperus or Juncus quadratus, an old name for Southernwood.

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[*ground ivy* ?] lb. i; of dodder of thyme; of dodder āā. ℥i; of great cardamoms; of anise āā. ℥ℹ; with quinces ℥i; and let a syrup be made with clarified honey and let the patient have a dose morning and evening.

For the evacuation of Frenzy.

R. Of hiera picra ℥ii; imperial cathartic ℥iii; powdered agaric and powdered rhubarb āā. ℥i; let them be confected with a decoction of dodder of thyme, dodder, violets and . . . . equal parts and of damsons, &c.*

A local remedy.—R. succory, lettuce, white poppy āā. ℥i; Red saunders, white saunders āā. and juice of marjoram; camomile flowers āā. ℥i; of liquid storax ℥ℹ and . . . . ℥i, with the yolks of fouregg s and a sufficiency of oil of roses. This medicine is a well tried one.

Of Heaviness of the Eyes and first against [*red*] Macula and the heat of the eyes and watering. It preserves and comforts the sight. (Plate III, fig. 1, left column.)

R. being extinguished† seven times after combustion let it be powdered and mixed with the urine of a virgin [*boy*] or with white wine and let sufficient honey be added to make it stick to the sides of a hollow bason and then shake the basin well so [*anointed with the Tutty*] mixed with the white wine and after [*the shaking*] allow it to stand a little while to dry until it shrinks from the side of the basin, but before it is quite dry add powdered hepatic aloes and let it be put upon the live coals and let the basin with the [*Tutty*] be inverted and let it lie there until the

* Etc. is often added by a scribe to end a sentence and does not imply that anything has been omitted.

† This prescription is rendered incomprehensible because the scribe has omitted to state that the remedy is Tutty. Arderne says in another MS. (Sloane 2271) "Tutty or tutie is to be had at the appotticaries and hath been sold for xijd a pound. Yt is excellent for payne of the eyes. Yt cometh from beyond sea but before yt be occupyed yt must be prepared after this sort. Put yt in an earthen pott and sett yt in the fyer whilst yt be very hott, then quench yt and ye must quench yt eyther in the juice of ffenell, in white wine or ells in the urine of a manchild and when it is quentched heate it agayne as before and quench yt until ye have served itt so ix or tenne times at the least &c."

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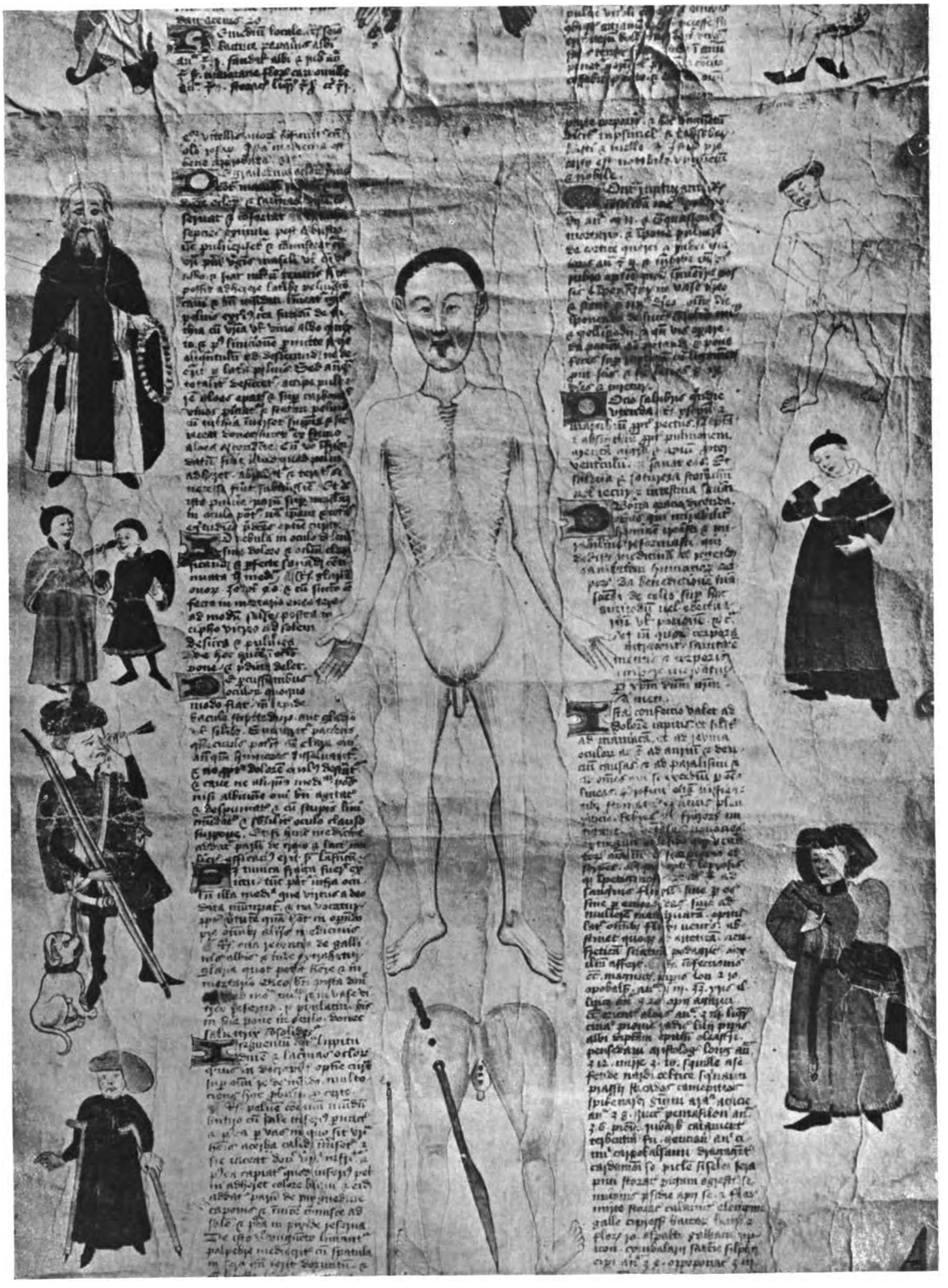
PLATE III.



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To face p. 5

aloes have ceased to smoke. And when it has cooled let the residue which sticks to the basin be scraped off and rubbed up [*finer*] if necessary and let a little of the powder be put upon the spot in the eye for it cures excellently both the spots and all the other aforesaid weaknesses.

To destroy a Nebula in the Eye painlessly and quite healthily with this medicine. (Plate III, fig. 2, left column.)

R. The whites of 30-40 eggs with [*sugar*] too beaten up in a brass mortar. Afterwards rub in a sufficiency of salt and dry it in the sun in a glass vessel. Powder it and put some of it in the eye. It destroys the nebula.

For Blows on the Eyes, however produced, whether with a stone, stick, hard root or a sword or in similar ways. (Plate III, fig. 3, left column.)

Let the patient be treated as quickly as possible with the white of egg before the humours are dissolved and the eye is destroyed by pain and be careful not to apply any other remedy except white of egg well beaten up and no longer frothy and cleanse with [*small*] linen swabs, and place it upon the closed eye and according to Lanfranc it will be more effectual if a little [*Saffron*] and woman's milk be added to this medicine etc.

If the eyeball be ruptured by a blow then that medicine is to be placed in the eye which is called "God's Virtue" ("Virtus a deo data") and it is so called because the virtue which it has in working is greater than that of all other medicines.

R. New laid eggs of white fowls as many as can be had.

The whites are separated and are well beaten in a brass mortar until [*they are like an ointment*] and kept in a glass vessel and twice [*a day*] put it into the eye a little at a time until the salve is congealed.*

An ointment against Bleareye and watering of the Eyes although it cures best in the decrepit. Above all other re[*medies*] I have many times proved this for certain. (Plate III, fig. 4. left column.)

R. A clean hollow basin greased at the bottom with butter

* The Sloane MS. reads "untill the coate or tunicle called conjunctiva be knytte agayne."

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with[*out*] salt and let it afterwards be dipped in a vessel in which is the warm acid urine of a man and let it remain there until the urine is cold and afterwards let the [*bluish*] coloured sediment be taken which sticks to the bottom of the [*vessel*] and add to it a little of the fat of a capon and mix it in the sun and afterwards preserve it in a box. And let the eyelids be smeared with this ointment on a spatula, in the evening when he goes to bed and bind it on with a bandage until the morning.

Against an Epileptic Fit. (Plate IV, fig. 1, left column.)

R. The herb Yve major and minor; burnt human bone āā. ℥iii; liquorice ℥iv. Let it be given morning and night.

Against Epilepsy write these three names with blood taken from the auricular finger* of the patient.

⊟ Jasper ⊟ Melchior ⊟ Balthazar and put gold, frankincense and myrrh into a box. Let the patient say three paternosters and iii Ave marias daily for the souls of the fathers and mothers of these three kings for a month and let the patient drink for a month of the juice of peony with beer or wine and if he be a child write with blood as before . . . . on a murrha† and let it be put in the beer and without doubt this remedy never fails.

In every affection of the heart, of epilepsy and future leprosy.

R. Decoction of the bone of a stag's heart given in wine with powdered pearls. If juice of borage be added it will be more effective. (Plate IV, fig. 2, left column.)

Against Deafness. (Plate IV, fig. 3, left column.)

R. Eggs of ants and earthworms beaten up with white wine and distilled in an alembic and, after cleansing the body, injected into the ear makes the deaf hear and stops tinnitus. And if from a cold cause let the juice of a leek be added.

In every case of tinnitus in the ear of whatever kind care must be taken to avoid bathing and the sun and too strong a light as well

* The little finger so called, it is said, because it can be introduced into the external auditory meatus.

† A piece of porcelain or fine china.

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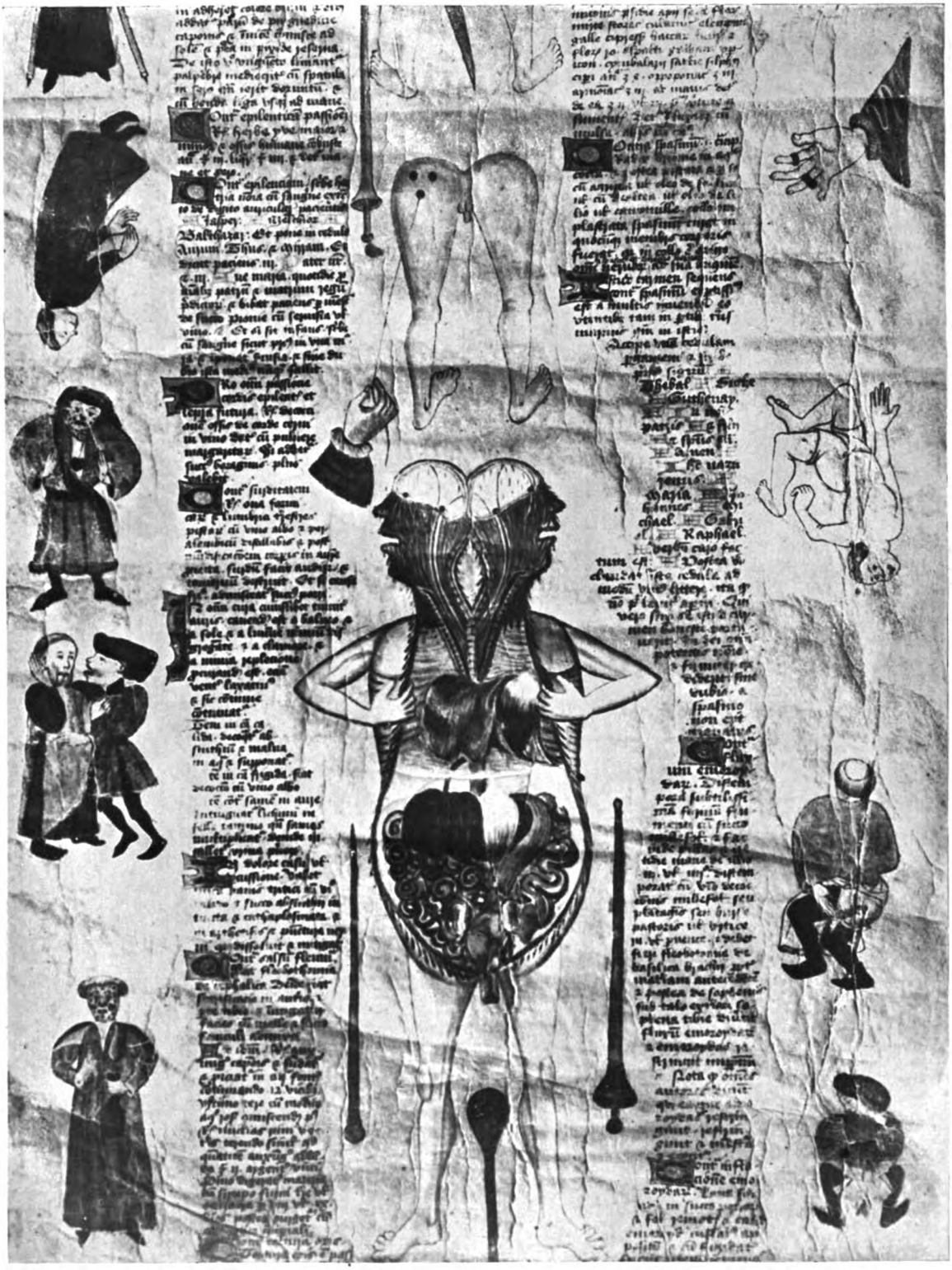
PLATE IV.



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To face p. 7

as noise and repletion. The belly too must be kept relaxed and such relaxation must be maintained.

In hot causes, too, let absinthe be infused in water with mallow and applied; also in cold causes let a decoction be made with white wine.

Also against a discharge from the ear let lycium* be dropped in with oxgall when the discharge is abundant and then let the urine of boys be instilled.

For pain due to an accident or a blow the crumb of rye bread is useful moistened with warm wine and juice of absinthe and poultices, as well as for the gouty and for puncture of a nerve because it dissolves and soothes.

Against the Salt Fleum.† (Plate IV, fig. 4, left column.)

Bleed from the cephalic, then scarify the front part of the tibia and let the face be anointed with honey mixed with juice of fennel.

For the same.—R. The fat of a capon and let it be melted and thrown into spring water changed twelve times and at last rub it up with a measure of rosewater by mingling it afterwards [*with the following*?].

R. Pine needles by rubbing them up at the same time with a quantity of lard and by adding two ounces of quicksilver.

Let the material be digested at first with syrup of fumitory or with oxycrate‡ for 8 or 9 times, afterwards let him be purged with imperial cathartic.

Against wrymouth. (Plate V, fig. 2, left column.)

Wrymouth is due to a kind of spasm which spoils the shape and expression of the face drawing or dragging the mouth of the man

* The inspissated juice of Pyxacanthus chironia; astringent and bitter.

† A pimply face.

> "A Somonour was ther with us in that place,
> That had a fyri cherubynes face,
> For sawceflem he was, with eyen narowe.
> And hot he was, and lecherous as a sparrow,"

says Chaucer in his Prologue, ll. 623-626.

‡ A mixture of vinegar and water used as a local application for pimples.

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or the woman to the ear like that of the fish called the fl[*o*]under. And it is to be observed that in such a case remedies ought to be applied to the back of the head between the neck and the head and that those remedies which are useful against paralysis and spasm are also useful against wrymouth. Still there are some special remedies if they can be obtained. In the first place let him be purged with ʒi of hiera logadion* and if it has lasted a long time it ought to be given daily.

Then if you are able to get acorus i.e. the root of the water flag which has a purple flower, nutmegs and sugar āā. These three are useful for their properties, and then make a syrup with honey and water. Wine is hurtful in every nerve complaint. But the last remedy is cauterizing the veins which are behind the ears, or let it be done in the neck as Avicenna says.

But note that if the wrymouth has lasted for eight months, it will never be cured or only with great difficulty. A certain soldier of the noble Duke of Lancaster at Ageçir in Spain suffered suddenly from wrymouth so that his mouth was drawn back nearly to his ear and he could not speak.

I, the aforesaid John Arderne, treated him in this way:—I took the bread made from brown flour (i.e. grey bred) and divided it into two parts and I placed them upon the bars beyond the embers and I well toasted them. Afterwards I put on one part of the bread which had been well soaked in vinegar as hot as the patient could bear it and when it got cold I put on the other part of the bread soaked in vinegar and thus by often repeating the application he was perfectly cured within one natural day.

Against palsy of the tongue lest the patient die intestate. (Plate V, fig. 3, left column.)

R. castoreum; black pepper; long pepper; pyrethrum; euphorbium āā. ℥iiii; vinegar ℥ii.

Being powdered let a powder be made and mingled with juice of Rue and let lozenges be made and put under the tongue one after the other.

* The hiera of Logadius of Memphis, see Nic. Myrepsus, Lugduni 1550, p. 456, No. 14.

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Plate V.

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For loss of speech.

Let a gargle be made with wine of the decoction of hyssop and pellitory āā. ℥½ or let the tongue be rubbed with powdered stavesacre, castoreum, sal ammoniac, black pepper and long pepper, mustard, pellitory, and origanum. And let it be rubbed until the saliva flows freely when . . . . *Let lozenges be made and let them be put one after the other under the tongue. (Plate V, fig. 4, left column.)

For Toothache. (Plate V, fig. 5, left column.)

Let the tooth you want to remove be rubbed with the gum of Ivy and it will immediately fall out or even if it be only applied to the tooth. But be careful not to touch the other teeth. Symphytum, i.e. henbane, does the same first steeped in vinegar and then cautiously applied round the tooth.

Rubbing the tooth with hazel bark does the same.

Mastich whitens and cleans the teeth.

A cure for Quinsy, that the materies morbi may be evacuated with the secretions of the belly and by bloodletting and by attracting the material to the opposite side and by applying cups beneath the breasts or on the thighs and let a gargle be made to drive the material to the surface, and with plasters applied externally. And note of sponge and of wool tied on being first dipped in honey and being thus soaked removes it from the place and frees from the danger of suffocation.

In the hot cause [*lana succida*†] dipped in a decoction of hyssop applied with olive oil or camomile is useful. In cold cause let Agrippa‡ boil in strong wine . . . . §dialthaea and being spread on a stupe let it be wrapped round the neck.

* "Quum datur ex ictis eisdem ultimo dictis" says the MS.

† "Lana succida," Arderne says in his treatises on Fistula, is "wolle that groweth atwix the legges of an ewe, about the udder, full of sweat, not washed." It was a crude method of obtaining what is now called Lanolin. An undressed fleece is still used in folk-medicine.

‡ Unguentum Grypa, an ointment much recommended by Nicolaus Myrepsus [ed. 1550, p. 210, No. 43] for abdominal pain.

§ Merciaton.

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Note that the veined scabious and devil's bit are very serviceable either as gargles or as plaisters.

The signs of death in Quinsy.

If there is foaming at the mouth it is a deadly sign or if the corners of the eyes become black or green, and if the pulse is lost or the extremities become cold, death will occur the same day, and if a cold sweat exudes beneath the armpits and is felt there.

For Botch of the throat. A soothing application for such botch: Raisins made into an emulsion with dates, dried figs, orris root and goats' dung. Filter and give it as a gargle and let the patient be rubbed externally with oil of violets or with warmed butter and marshmallow. (Plate VI, fig. i, left column.)

A plaster made of flour matures, breaks and relieves such a boil and such things hasten the cure.

Against matted glands. Ground ivy* ground up and infused with oil of cummin plastered on. (Plate VI, fig. 2, left column.)

Also goats' dung with vinegar is useful if it is employed as a plaister.

Against swelling of the Uvula. If the body be plethoric bleed from the veins under the tongue. There are also such local remedies as: a gargle with styptics at the beginning of the attack; with maturatives whilst it is in progress and with cleansers during its decline. (Plate VI, fig. 3, left column.)

If it is of hot cause† use styptics with solatrum and rose-water and let a gargle of this kind be made.

Also, R. Tragacanth, gum arabic, sarcocolla‡ incorporated with the juice of solatrum§ and a little vinegar. Apply by inunction.

* Ground ivy, Hedera terrestris. "This herb" says Dr. James Alleyn in the New English Dispensatory, Lond. 1733, "is mightily in use both in shops and common Prescription. It is not only prescribed in almost all distempers of the Lungs and Breast but also accounted good in obstructions of the viscera. It is reckoned to do wonders in Tubercles and tartarous indurations of the lungs. Willis mightily commends its powder in obstinate coughs, especially in children."

† With fever?

‡ A granular gum like Mastiche used as an agglutinative. It is the inspissated juice of Penæa mucronata and P. sarcocolla.

§ Morelle.

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Plate VI.

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If it is of cold cause the juice of nettles and bramble rubbed up with salt is useful in this case also mastiche as a gargle with kail juice with tragacanth powder and gum arabick.

Of hoarseness from shouting, watching and fatigue. Give a bath and poached eggs and conserve of apples and orach and lovage and a confection of linseed and bean flour. (Plate VI, fig. 4, left column.)

Observe that phlebotomy should not be done for hoarseness unless it is of hot and moist cause.

For severe hoarseness pills of asafoetida and fenugrec and orobus* and make an electuary for this is of much service in hoarseness from a cold cause. (Plate VI, fig. 5, left column.)

If the materies morbi is of a moist cause dried figs and decoctions of calamint with tragacanth and gum arabick are helpful. Dried figs are serviceable in all causes.

For roughness of the voice. Make a poultice of sieved bran with milk of almonds, sugar candy and the whites of eggs.

Against a cough whether cold or hot. (Plate VI, fig. 6, left column.)

R. Dried figs, raisins āā. . . . . broth a third part. Digest them with liquorice and honey and make a decoction with maidenhair, origanum and hyssop āā. Let the patient avoid acid and salt things and let him live with moderation.

A cure for a cough from cold and moist cause. Let the breath be held because it warms the lung and the whole chest.

Likewise pills of myrrh and storax with honey held under the tongue.

Likewise sulphur rubbed up with poached eggs.

Likewise rubbing with warm oils as oil of lilies with red wax and costus and spikenard and cummin.

Let a dried fig be given.

Against Cold Rheum. (Plate VI, fig. 7, left column.)

R. Absinthe and white horehound a handful of each; ground ivy a third part.

* Vetch.

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Let them be digested in white wine or in water and let the patient be made drowsy by the steam (inhaled) through his mouth and nostrils with the head covered.

But note that chewing three grains of white incense daily is useful against all rheums from a cold cause and . . . .

R. Liquorice juice ℥xii; of the seeds of citron melons ℥v; tragacanth and gum acacia āā. ℥i.

Make it into lozenges and let one be kept under the tongue until it is dissolved and let the liquorice juice be swallowed.

It is useful in every rheum.

In hot and cold cases ℞. Liquorice juice ℥10: melon and quince seeds ʒv: gums tragacanth and arabic āā. ℥ij; make lozenges and let one be held under tongue until it is dissolved and let the liquorice juice be swallowed. This is useful in every fever.

Against a cold cough.

A water of sieved bran wonderfully cleanses the lung and chest if horehound, calamint, hyssop, figs and liquorice be digested with it.

Against dryness of the Chest.

R. Violets ℥½; figs ℥i; horehound and poppies of each ℥i.

Make a decoction with sugar.

Also let an electuary be used of iris, mint and horehound.

If anyone is full of phlegm.

R. Hyssop; mint; maiden hair* āā. a handful; horehound half a handful; agrimony a quarter of a handful; cinnamon ℥½; orrice ℥ii; gum arabic and tragacanth āā. ℥½ liquorice ℥iv.

Make a syrup with a tisane of barley and beans and add to it one pound of sugar and an equal quantity of honey.

Against phthisis with fever. (Plate VII, fig. 3, left column.)

R. Endive; maidenhair; scolopendra; enula campestris; shepherd's purse; horsehoof; duckweed āā. ℥i; barley sugar ℥ii, etc.; gum arabic and liquorice āā. ℥ii; four seeds of the cleansing cold

* Alleyne in his dispensatory (1733 p. 15) says: "True Maiden-hair grows about Montpellier but is seldom or never brought into England. The Maidenhair here recommended is, therefore, the Wall-rue or white Maidenhair."

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The photographer has in error reproduced the bottom of Plate VII at the top of this plate.

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seeds* ʒi; of quince seeds and of cotton seeds āā. ʒii; and of all the saunders āā. ʒ½; of water-lily flowers ʒii; sugar q.s.

Without fever.

R. Calamint; hyssop; maidenhair; scolopendrium āā. a handful; agrimony half a handful; lily root; smallage seeds; pine cones āā. ʒi; mallows ʒ½; figs and juice of liquorice āā. one quarter. Make a syrup. To be given in a tisane made of barley and beans with honey lb. 1½

Against Vomiting of Blood by the Mouth. (Plate VII, fig. 4, left column.)

R. Hypoquistidis†; acacia; balaustines‡; psyllium§; white coral and red coral powdered; hematite; plantain seeds; . . . . quince seeds; bole armoric; terra sigillata; dragon's blood; juice of green mint; juice of roses and of sumach āā. ʒxv.

Make a syrup with three pounds of sugar and make the syrup with rain water or with rosewater.

It is excellent in bleeding from the mouth and for dysentery.

A Syrup for the Consumptive, for the hectic, the wasted, the phthisical, for those who cough, and for the Asthmatic, since it cleanses and purifies, soothes and feeds and is useful in healing and for driving out discharges as well as for its strengthening virtues. (Plate VII, fig. 4, left column.)

R. Root of iris and hyssop āā. ʒi; maidenhair three handfuls; four seeds of the greater and lesser celandine; coriander seed; mallow seed; seed of the white poppy; cotton; fenugrek; bitter vetch; marmalade of liquorice; marmalade of raisins; marmalade of pines and of almonds; marmalade of husked barley āā. ʒii.

Cook them over a slow fire with dry sticks in sweet well water

* The greater cold seeds were:— Citrul, Cucumber, Gourd and Melon. The lesser cold seeds were:— Endive, Succory, Lettuce and Purslane. The greater hot seeds were:— Anise, Caraway, Cummin and Fennel. The lesser hot seeds were:— Bishop's weed [Ammi majus] Amomum: Smallage and Wild Carrot.

† The juice of the Holly Rose dried in the sun—an astringent.

‡ The wild pomegranate flowers—also astringent.

§ The fleawort.

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without sediment and add half a pound of bread and two pounds of sugar. Make a syrup.

To cleanse the Chest of gross humours. (Plate VIII, fig. 1, left column.

R. Root of fen[*nel*]; root of smallage āā. ℥x; of liquorice ℥vi; sweet almonds ℥iv; . . . . hyssop; mallow seeds ℥ii; cubebs ℥xx; figs ℥ii.

Digest to a third in eight pounds of water and administer as a drink. Also a good and well tried powder. R. Seripula resin senna ℥i and seripula i.[*e.*] *turbith.** With the turbith one half of ginger and let it be taken in pottage.

Against difficult breathing. (Plate VIII, fig. 2, left column.)

R. Elecampane ʒii; Horehound and iris āā. ʒ½; Hyssop a handful; Caniepitheos (?) a handful.

Make a syrup with sugar.

If there is Fever.

R. Maidenhair and Spleenwort a handful of each; the four cold seeds āā. and a half.

Let a syrup be made with sugared bread, and a tisane made with barley.

Against Pleurisy. (Plate VIII, fig. 3, left column.)

Let the patient first be bled from the saphenous vein of the affected side and if the blood comes out black do not stop it until it gets red and if it does not become red let him be bled from the basilic on the opposite side.

If a plaister can be put on the side these are examples:—

Let powdered figs, dates and raisins digested together be mixed with hog's lard and placed over the painful spot.

Also juice of ordinary cress and of watercress two handsful of each; hog's lard; wheaten flour; linseed meal; and fenugrek—a sufficiency, and let a plaister be made.

Let a syrup be made

R. Lily roots; wormwood one third part of a handful; hyssop a quarter of a handful; Camomile half a handful; Honey q.s. as much as is enough to mature it.

* MS. gloss.

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PLATE VIII.

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R. Hyssop a handful; Agrimony half a handful; Lily root one part; white henbane a quarter of a handful; tragacanth ℥½; dried figs ℥ii, smallage seeds ℥½ liquorice ℥iv. Make a syrup with honey, &c.

If there is Fever.

R. Of Spleenwort and of maidenhair each a handful; Purslane four handfuls; cold seeds ℥½; Mallow ℥i; Liquorice juice ℥½; Violets ℥½; Borage flowers ℥½; Gum Arabic ℥ii; Tragacanth ℥iii. Make a syrup for a drink with barley and beans.

The following are the signs of a pleurisy.

A long continued acute fever and the hardness of it has . . . . in the side and causes him to move from side to side coughing continuously . . . . panting . . . . forsooth the malice of the disease, the neighbourhood of the heart, continuous fever, lividity . . . . i.e. slow breathing which is due in the pleuritic to the great stabbing pain in the side. He has this peculiar feeling on account of the connection of the brain with the nerves. The hollow cough is due to the materies morbi is inflammation.*

Pleuropneumonia is inflammation of the lung. The treatment of pleuropneumonia is the same as the treatment for pleurisy except that in pleuropneumonia stronger medicine should be employed.

Palpitation of the Heart of Cardiac origin. (Plate VIII, fig. 4, left column.)

R. roses ℥½; aloes ℥i; cardamons; cinnamon; cloves āā. ℥ii; Myrrh gr i; Juniper ℥ii½.

Let them be powdered and treated with wine. Make a plaister to be applied to the chest and over the region of the heart. A syrup can be made by adding honey enough.

If with fever.

R. Putty; Red Ochre ℥i; Sandal ℥½.

Pound them together in a mortar with rosewater; mix and make a plaister for the heart region. A syrup can also be made by the four cold seeds with sufficient sugar. Some give the diarodon of Julius in these cases.†

* The whole of this passage is so corrupt that I can make nothing of it.

† Nicolaus Myrepsus gives several formulæ for diarrhodon.

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Item. R. Sugar of roses ℥i; and a pennyweight of powdered mother of pearl and mix them.

A spirituous syrup for the same.

R. Borage flowers ℥½; roses ℥i; ashes ʒiii; Enulacampane ʒi½; Osimus (?) ʒij; Lignum aloes ʒi; Galangal ʒ½; Cinnamon ʒss; Quince seed ʒiij; White coral ʒii; Sugar q.s.

Make a syrup.

Anoint the body with mucilage of Fleawort, with white of egg and with a little populeon.*

If it is with fever let anise be put in.

In cold causes. A drink of diacomeron, rosata novella† diatrion.‡

Note that in heart cases the flowers of borage put in wine and drunk are very serviceable.

A well tried and very sure method against heart attacks and Syncope. (Plate IX, fig. 1, left column.)

R. Slime of Gold ʒi; Perforated and unperforated Pearls āā. ʒi; behen alb.§ and Rue āā. ʒiv.

Make a powder and give it in food and in drinks. If the syncope is due to loss of blood give chicken broth with wine. If it is the result of colic or passio iliaca take a tile and make it hot, wrap it in a cloth and lay it over the painful spot. Then make this plaister.

R. Of smallage root, Fennel and peony, ground ivy. Heat them together, make a paste; wash the painful part and apply the plaister as hot as it can be borne. Sprinkle the patient's face with rose water and then let him be given ʒ½ of diamargariton. ‖

Against Dysphagia. (Plate IX, fig. 2, left column.)

If it be from a cold cause make a gargle of pellitory; iris; caraway; laurel berries, rue with honey and sugar. If it be from an inflammation let a gargle be made of fenugrek, dates, camomile, and figs with sugar. Make a plaister of them also for external application.

* An ointment made from the buds of the white Poplar or Ashen tree.

† Nicolaus Myrepsus De Antidotis, No. 204.

‡ *Idem*, No. 213. § *Idem*. No. 38 = hermodactyls. ‖ *Idem*, No. 37

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Plate IX

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Against Boulimia i.e. irrational appetite. (Plate IX, fig. 3, left column.)

R. Cardamons ℥½; cinnamon and cubebs āā. ℥i; Sugar ad. lb. i. Let it be used ad lib.

An Electuary:—

R. Cinnamon, anise, caraway and bishop's weed ℥½; galangal ℥ii; sugar q.s. To be given on an empty stomach.

For deficient action of the Liver. (Plate IX, fig. 4, left column). Let the materies morbi be digested with oxymel of squills and let it then be evacuated with Hiera picra and let it be used with cloves and mint ʒ½ and with Galangal.

Against deficient action of the liver from Cold. Eating with mint and everything acid is good according to Avicenna.

Electuary of diatrion piperion,* diacalamintum,† diasene,‡ diacinimum §; diaprassium, diagalangal.‖ All these are useful in cold cause.

Against the Drink Habit. (Plate IX, fig. 5, left column.)

R. Cloves, aloes, mace, cubebs, mastiche and make an Electuary. If it is from an abundance of cold humours let the diatrion piperion and galangal be used and let him eat warm foods.

Do this against thirst. Let him eat cucumber seeds, purslane, lettuce, sorrel and orach, equal parts of each.

A Syrup:—

Juice of sorrel, lettuce, purslane and mallow āā. Make a decoction and add half an ounce of tragacanth and make a syrup with sugar. If he is still thirsty after taking the medicine nothing is so good to give as chicken broth.

For Belching from a hot cause or bad complexion of the stomach or of the humors. Give an electuary of Abbot's diarrhodon¶; the three sandals; diacitoniton** and rosata novella.†† (Plate IX, fig. 6, left column.)

* Nicolaus Myrepsus, No. 117. † *Idem*, No. 105. ‡ *Idem*, No. 112, &c.
§ (?) Diacinamomi, *idem*, No. 468, 476 and 506. ‖ *Idem*, No. 222.
¶ *Idem*, No. 94.
** Diacydium, a purgative containing quince and jalap.
†† *Idem*, No. 204.

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From a cold cause.

Let the materies morbi be digested with oxymel and, if it be from a faulty state of the humours, the materies morbi being digested, let it be purged off with turpith and hiera picra, &c. Note that turpith should never be given unless the third part is ginger, or with milk of almonds.

And these remedies are also useful against belching, viz.:—Mint: calamint; origanum; rue āā.; caraway and cloves. Then let the patient eat in the evening of Diacinimum, diagalangy and afterward he may have a draught of wine; and plums soaked in wine and heated as hot as he can bear them laid on his stomach.

Against hiccough. (Plate IX, fig. 7, left column.)

Let the leech tell the patient to hold his breath as long as possible. But if this does not stop the hiccough make him vomit, with radishes and mastiche. Let him drink warm water with a decoction of dill. Rue, too, drunk with wine is useful in such cases.

Against retching.

R. A mixture of sugar and vinegar to be given in lukewarm water. It is also good in acute fevers.

To keep in health he says that no one should eat more than he can digest, because if he does so squeamishness results and the humours are either hot or cold. If hot the materies morbi can be digested with oxysacchara or with acidulated syrup since the things digested can be purged with tamarinds. If it is at the mouth of the stomach give him warm water mixed with oxysacchara or acidulated syrup. If the materies morbi is cold at the mouth of the stomach it can be digested with oxymel. Let rolls (?) be made and put into oxymel and give ʒii in a solution of rocksalt.

For coldness of the stomach and against Flatulence. (Plate IX, fig. 8, left column.)

R. Mastiche, cloves, cubebs and cardamons ʒ½; cinnamon, ginger, spikenard and anise āā. ʒiii; oxymel ʒii; musk nut ʒi and as much sugar as all the rest; lignum aloes ʒiii.

Make a powder of dry mint and let it be rubbed up and powdered and put it in pottage. This will cleanse the stomach of putrid humours.

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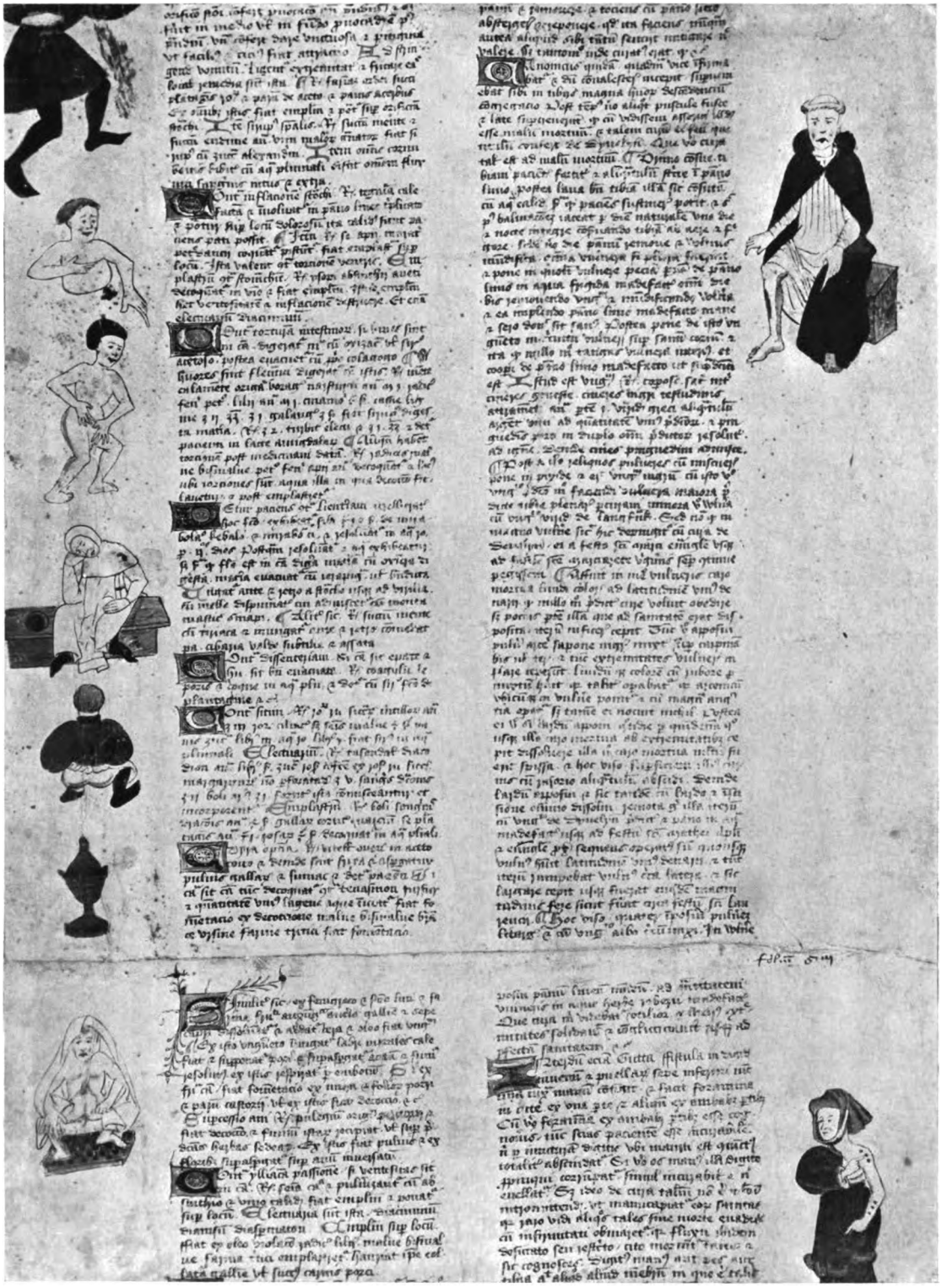
Plate X.



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. . . .* is with purging if the hurtful humor settles at the orifice of the stomach it should be done before dinner, but if it is in the centre or in the pit of the stomach the evacuation should be after a meal whence it happens that it is better to give rich and fatty things that the attraction may be easier and quicker.

To stop vomiting. Bandage the limbs and rub them.

The following are local remedies :—Barley meal, plantain juice, ... and a little vinegar with stale bread. Make a plaister of them and put it over the entrance of the stomach. There is also a special syrup; juice of mint and juice of endive āā. with pomegranates. Make a syrup with Alexandrine sugar. Powdered cow's horn, also, drunk with rainwater stops every external and internal hæmorrhage.

Against distension of the Stomach. (Plate X, fig. 1, left column.)

R. Warm a brick, wrap it in three folds of linen and place it over the painful spot as hot as it can be borne.

Also R. Smallage seed, nasturtium and parsley digested and pounded. Make a plaister and apply it over the place. It is good against bellyache.

A Plaister against stomachache.

R. Hyssop, absinthe, dill. Let them be digested in wine and made into a plaister. This plaister relieves flatulence and distension as does also the diaciminum electuary.

Against bellyache when worms are the cause. (Plate X, fig. 2, left column.)

Let the materies morbi be digested with oxysacchara or syrup of vinegar. Purge afterwards with a proper chologogue. If the humours are phlegmatic they should be digested with the following :—

R. Mint; calamint; origanum; borage; nasturtium āā., a handful of each; of fennel root, parsley and lily āā., a handful; cinnamon ʒ½; cassia lignum ʒii; ginger ʒi; galangal ʒ½. Make a syrup after the materies morbi is digested.

R. Ginger and Turpith electuary ʒi, and give it to the patient

* A paragraph "Against Nausea" which is so damaged as to be illegible.

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with milk of Almonds. Some patients have pain after taking this medicine.

R. Digest mallow roots; marsh mallow; fennel; parsley and smallage āā.

Wash the painful part with the water in which the decoction was made and let the plaister be afterwards applied.

The following mellicrat* may be given to a patient suffering from a lientery.† (Plate X, fig. 3, left column.)

Give of mellicrat ʒiss. myrobalanes‡ chebulæ and myrobalanes citrinæ. Let them be dissolved in rosewater for two days and let the water after they are dissolved be used according as . . . . and the digested materies morbi be evacuated with hiera picra, or the benedicta.§ Anoint the patient back and front from the stomach to the flanks with run honey mixt with mint, mastiche and mustard. Another treatment is R. Juice of mint and treacle rubbed in front and back and let the patient have food which is tender and dry.

Against dysentery when the cause is in the liver and moist.

Purge the patient well. R. The clot of a hare cooked in rain water and given with a syrup made of plantains, &c.

* Mellicrat was a mixture of honey and water originally used as a libation when sacrificing, but afterwards introduced into medicine as a remedy. Nic. Myrepsus, "De antidotis," No. 337.

† Lientery, a form of diarrhœa in which undigested food is passed.

‡ Myrobalanes are the fruit of several species of Terminalia and of the Phyllanthus emblica, "A kind of outlandish Prune," says Salmon ["The New London Dispensatory," 1678, p. 79], "not known to the Greeks, but found out by the Arabians. They grow in the East Indies, and are found wild in Goa, being a fruit sharp in taste much like to service berries." The five sorts of Myrobalanes are (1) The Bellerick to purge Flegm: (2) the Chebulæ which first purge Flegm, then Choler: (3) the Citrine or yellow which purge Choler: (4) the Emblick which purge Flegm and water: (5) the Indian or black which purge Melancholy. Dose from ʒvi-ʒiss. The Bellerick are round: the Chebulæ long with corners: the Citrine are round like the Bellerick: the Indian black and eight cornered. Myrobalans were much used in medicine until the middle of the seventeenth century in the treatment of diarrhœa and dysentery, for it is said that, like castor oil, they acted first as a laxative and then as an astringent.

§ Benedicta laxativa, Nicolaus Myrepsus, "De Antidotis," No. 509. *Vide* p. 23.

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Against Thirst.

R. A handful of roses; dried myrtle ʒiii; of ash leaves; mallow seeds ℥ss; sugar bread lbs. iii; rose water lb. i. Make a syrup in rain water.

An electuary R. Syrup of saunders and syrup of poppies āā. lb. ss; syrup of roses; confection of red roses. Essence of unperforated pearls ℥v; dragon's blood* ℥ii; bole armoric ℥i.†

Mixed well together and incorporated.

A plaister. R. Boli [armoric] and dragon's blood āā. ℥ss; galls of oak bark and plantain seed āā. ℥i; roses ℥ss. Let them be boiled in rainwater.

The best cure. R. The yolks of eggs in boiled vinegar, rubbed up and sprinkled, with powdered galls and sumach and given to the patient.

If it is from a hot cause. Let bran be boiled to prevent griping and let a quantity of one lagena of water‡ be injected. Make a fomentation of a decoction of mallow and marsh mallow, Bears breech and wheaten flour.

In like manner make an ointment of fenugrek, cornflour, hen's fat, goosefat and goat's spleen. Dissolve and add wax and oil. Let the inside of the pot be smeared with the ointment. Make it hot. Sprinkle vinegar on it and when the steam rises let it be inhaled through a funnel.

If from a cold cause make a fomentation of myrrh and the leaves of leeks with a little castoreum or make a decoction of them, &c.

* Dragon's blood. The resin obtained from the fruit of Calamus draco. There are several varieties, the Canary, East Indian, Socotrine and West Indian. It may have been the Cinnabar of Dioscorides. It was reputed to stop all sorts of fluxes and spitting of blood, staying catarrhs and strengthening the stomach. Outwardly it healed wounds, stopped bleeding, fastened the teeth and, applied to the Navel, stopped dysenteries.

† Bole Armoric, an earth of a reddish brown colour due to the presence of iron oxide. It was imported from Armenia. Many kinds of similar and argillaceous earth—clay containing iron oxide, chalk and magnesia—were imported in the form of small cakes or flat masses stamped with certain impressions and hence known as *terræ sigillatæ*. Bole Armoric was used as an astringent both externally and internally.—(See "Terra Sigillata," C. J. S. Thompson, *Proc. Int. Cong. Med.*, London, 1913.)

‡ A flaskful.

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Prolapse of the Rectum.*

R. Penny royal, marjoram. Make a decoction and let him receive the steam or let him sit over these herbs. (Plate X, figs. 4 and 5.) Make a powder of them and let him be sprinkled with the flowers over the prolapsed anus.

Against Passio Iliaca.

If wind is the cause. R. Take the hot seeds† and powder them with absinthe and warm wine. Make a plaister and put it over the place. These are electuaries for it:—diacuminum;‡ dianisum; diaspermaton. Let the plaister be applied over the place. Make it from oil of violets, lily roots, marshmallow and wheaten flour. Make it into a plaister. Let him have chicken panade and pork essence.

Against the Colic. Digest with syrup . . . . ℥i; and lily root. Infuse them together and put in a quarter of a pound of oil and let it be applied with an instrument.

For worms. R. Centaury and absinthe mixed and drunk with white wine. Item R. drink hart's-horn with salt and it should be exhibited with milk.

Note. **A Plaister for killing all kinds of worms.**

R. Millefoil . . . . and vinegar or sour wine well cooked together. Apply it below the navel as hot as can be borne.

Note, too, that centaury cooked in wine kills snakes and all worms in the belly.

Against Gonorrhœal inflammation.§

Purslane seed; water lentil; water lily and psidium āā. ℥i. Make a syrup.

Against a bad complexion of the Liver. (Plate XI, fig. 1, left column.)

Let the materies morbi be digested and evacuated with diaprunum ℥½ or purged with a drachm of rhubarb, or let it be evacuated

* Henry IV suffered from prolapse of the rectum. He died 20 March, 1413.

† *Vide* p. 13. ‡ Nic. Myrepsus, "De Antidotis," No. 328.

§ Any urethral discharge was called gonorrhœal, so that purulent urine associated with chronic cystitis, pyelitis, tuberculous disease, &c., would be included. Gonorrhœa specifically Arderne calls "chaude pisse" (*vide* p. 28).

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with a drachm of hiera cerevisia acuta with a drachm of rhubarb. These often act until [*the materies morbi*] is evacuated. One scruple of endive, mallow and willow leaves extracted by a bath, made up as a lozenge with bramble syrup ʒi.

[*Of basilicon*]. A plaister for external application. Sandals, roses, animal charcoal with juice of nightshade, warm vinegar and a little oil of roses with barley meal. Some add juice of plantain to the barley meal. Apply it externally over the liver. It is also useful in obstruction in a warm complexion.

In cold cause let the materies morbi be digested with diuretic oxymel* and decoction of eupator, root of fennel, parsley and smallage āā. ; absinthe ; the materies morbi being digested let it be evacuated with an equal mixture of benedict† and hiera picra.

The materies morbi being evacuated make a stupe with decoction of origanum, calamint, absinthe, smallage, saliva of bird's tongue, cloves [*and oxymel*] on the stupe. Let it be exhibited with one drachm of aurea alexandrina.‡

Against constipation when it is due to deformity of the liver and hot materies morbi.

Digest the materies morbi thus:—R. endive, scolopendrium, maidenhair āā. one handful ; the four lesser cold seeds and fennel āā. ℥ss ; sandals ℥ss. Make a syrup of them and purge the patient with rhubarb.

* This is probably Mesue's Oxymelitis confectio Julianios dicta. Nic. Myrepsus "De Oxymelitis," p. 580.

† The Blessed Laxative, Benedicta Laxativa, was an electuary made of Turbith, Diagrydium, the bark of Spurge root and Hermodactyl with the seeds of fennel and anise, rock salt and honey. The electuary owed its laxative properties to the Diagrydium which was made by baking scammony in a hollow quince covered with paste. Nic: Myrepsus "De Antidotis," Nos. 448, 507 and 509. Hiera picra was an aloetic purgative still largely sold in chemists' shops under various names. The *British Medical Journal*, vol. i, 1911, pp. 163 and 250, reports a case of a woman who stated that she had taken pills of hiera picra in the hope of producing a miscarriage. She died with the symptoms of poisoning from cantharides. The hiera picra was given as an electuary, it was one of many similar preparations—Nicolaus Myrepsus gives 37 hieræ—which were kept by the apothecary in a dried form until wanted for use under the general heading of *species*.—(See "Hiera Picra," C. J. S. Thompson, M.B.E.)

‡ A kind of opiate named either after Alexander, a physician, or Alexandria where it was first used.

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If it be from a cold cause he must by no means eat butcher's meat, but he may have the flesh of fowls. Let him sometimes drink poor man's broth and sometimes rich man's, but if he is a pauper let him drink his own urine. If, for any reason he will not drink it let him wash the region of the liver or collect his water for 4 or 5 days and then make a decoction. Distil it and clear it with white of egg and of that water make a syrup with these seeds, smallage, carrot, parsley, caraway, fennel and the four cold seeds not cleansed, &c. āā. ℥ij, a handful of . . . . and an ounce of red saunders. Make a syrup with honey and sugar q.s. and give it with ʒiii of benedict in a decoction of polypody, anise and fennel seed.

Against inflammation of the Liver from a Cold Cause. (Plate XI, fig. 2, left column.)

R. Wool soaked in the juice of nightshade or of plantain for two or three days and let a pad of lint be applied over the part and they are counter irritants and afterwards let the patient use them for a resolvent.

Make a plaister of barley meal and juice of absinthe to put over the liver. Afterwards maturatives such as wheaten flour with butter, or linseed, or fenugrek with fowl's lard. The abscess having burst and pus being produced it can then be evacuated with diarhubarb* or with hiera saracenica† or with diaprunum.

For a cold inflammation. Make a fomentation with lana succida‡ soaked in wine and oil, the wine being decocted with centaury and roots of daffodil.

Make an application of R. dry figs soaked in juice of absinthe and vinegar and strong lye, with the lard of geese and fowls. Digest the materies morbi with this.

R. of smallage; of dill, [*parsley and fennel*] āā. ℥ij and of their roots āā. ʒi. Make a syrup with honey and sugar.

* Nic. Myrepsus, "De Antidotis," Nos. 489 and 504.

† Saracen's consound is the solidago saricenica. "It is a traumatic and vulnerary herb not inferior to any. It cures wounds and ulcers of the lungs, the yellow jaundice, long tedious agues and fevers: eases pain and is a good gargle." Surely a gift from the Crusades.

‡ See page 9 *note*.

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Plate XI.

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To face p. 25

Against a flux of blood from the liver. (Plate XI, fig. 3, left column.)

Bleed from the Saphena vein. Make a syrup with rain water, decoction of sumach, of roses, of mastiche and of the cold seeds with syrup of plantain,

A syrup for the same, Balaustines, psidium, roses, myrtle, āā. ʒi; plantain seeds [*and the seeds of quince and*] barberry; terra sigillata, bole armoniac* āā. ʒss; dragon's blood, red coral, lapis hamatites† āā. two drachms.

Make a syrup with rainwater and give it with rosewater. It is both astringent and alterative.

Against Dropsy from hot and cold cause. (Plate XI, fig. 4, left column.)

R. Yppie minor aqua. i.e. chekynmete‡ beanflour and oatmeal āā.; elderflowers and marshmallow. Take them all, powder them and seethe them in pig's milk. Put it into a bag and place it on the chest. The dropsy will be drawn into the purse of the testicles and the skin of that testicle can be then opened and the water let out. It must only be let out a little at a time and the hole must be closed immediately.

When this is done make a consolidating plaister of bole armoniac with incense, dragon's blood and white of egg. Put the plaister over the aperture.

Also **against dropsy** when the materies morbi is in the fissure of the liver. Add a half a drachm of rhubarb if you wish to evacuate it, or this can be done with ʒ½ of diaprunum or with half a drachm of trifera saracenica or with electuary of the juice of roses or give him spikenard to drink in goat's whey.

* See page 21.

† The loadstone was thought to be preferable to steel [*chalybs*] for medicinal purposes as an astringent and to increase the momentum of the blood. It was a powerful deobstruant and greatly promoted the menstrual discharges.

‡ Added in English. Chicken meat is an old name for various weedy plants includng the endive. It has now been narrowed down to Chickweed—the Stellaria media. The name here used by Arderne appears to be the same as that employed in the Simon. Barthol. anno 1387 [*Ansed. Oxon.*] 25. Ippia minor, chiken-mete.

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Against . . . .* (Plate XII, fig. 1, left column.)
(Close ?) the hole with the aforesaid powder of the three aforesaid components.
Place it on the fire and give it to the patient in the morning, late at night, and also at mid-day.
Electuaries in cold cause are the following: trisandalon,† rosata novella; electuaries in cold cause are Abbot's diarrhodon‡ and diacitoniton.§

Also for Jaundice with ascites and tympanites.
Decoction of plantain juice boiled down to a half and given as a drink. It cures and is a well tried remedy.
Also rub up earthworms in aqua benedicta‖ or in wine. Give it to the patient once a day for 5 days. This too is a well tried remedy.

For the splenic passion in cold cause with continued fever. (Plate XII, fig. 2.)
Anoint the splenic region with butter made in the month of May lest the illness be increased by fever, If it be without fever digest the materies morbi thus:—R. Scolopendrium, endive, germander and ground pine āā. a handful; the bark of ash and red willow āā. one handful; an ounce of cuscuta, two drachms of capers; borage juice lb. ½.
Make a syrup with sugar. The materies morbi being digested purge it off with imperial cathartic.¶
Also in cold cause let the materies morbi be digested with oxymel and decoction of scolopendrium, leek, capers, ashbark, tamarisk, and broom, fennel roots and parsley with honey and sugar q.s.

* Undecipherable. † The mixed powders of the three Sandal woods.

‡ Diarrhodon powder consisting of rose leaves, sandal wood, cardamom seeds, powdered cinnamon, saffron and fennel. It was used as a stomachic powder.

§ Diacydium or diacitoniton was a purgative composed of quince and jalap.

‖ The aqua Benedicta was an Antimonial wine used for megrim and headache from a foul stomach. The dose was one-half to an ounce and a half.

¶ An electuary containing resin of Scammony pleasant and dedicated to kings and great men because it thoroughly purges the whole body without hurting it.

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PLATE XII.

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When the materies morbi is digested purge with diasene or hiera picra* with a pill of the 5 kinds of myrobolanes.†

Of pain in the kidneys from a hot cause. (Plate XII, fig. 3.)

If it be with rheum the patient should eat potherbs and mallow and it is a good thing to give diaprunum and the like (made) with cold herbs such as poppy and the like.

If it be without rheum. Digest the materies morbi with sugar and vinegar or with syrup of vinegar and being digested purge it off with imperial cathartic or with . . . . or with syrup of roses.

If it be from a cold cause let the materies morbi be digested with diuretic oxymel and afterwards with squills and purge with hermodactyl benedict. Bleed from the external saphenous in either cause after the evacuation of the materies morbi.

If it comes from too much blood, bleed from the hepatic‡ vein.

If from a hot cause let the kidney region be anointed with oil of violets and May butter.

Against Inflammation of the Kidneys.

Make a decoction of the root of the lily, leek and hyssop and give it in goat's whey.

Against Pissing blood with the urine. (Plate XII, fig. 4.)

When it comes from repletion bleed from the hepatic vein; when it comes from the spleen let the blood be drawn from the left side. Make a syrup of acacia or balaustines§ with plantain juice or a decoction of it.

Against pain in the kidneys from stone growing in it.

A plaister of pigeon's dung and honey applied hot is good.

Mustard also relieves pain in the kidneys and [*bowels and*] cures [*swelling*] of the nerves.

Item, **against weakness of the Kidneys.**

R. Plantain well seethed in white wine.

A drink against humor in the kidneys or [bladder] is wont . . . . wisdom most for boys that [*do not bear medecines well. Gromwell seeds one*] lb. and rub up well in a mortar and [*pour on it hot water and cleanse it*] well and let it be given daily.

* *Vide* p. 23. † *Vide* p. 20.

‡ (i.e.) the basilic. § Wild pomegranate.

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[*through*] a cloth eight they feel. For . . . . cure of the attack.

Cure of the stone R . . . .

they will issue . . . . āā. ʒiii of pepper

with stones . . . .

with honey . . . .

and on an empty stomach of . . . .

with a decoction of saxifrage or . . . .

an aqueous infusion of . . . .* (Plate II, fig. 1, right column.)

To break a stone.

R. [Remove] a boar's bladder from its place and empty it of the water. Fill it with the blood of a he-goat aged four years or at any rate not less than three years old. The goat should have been fed on betony and saxifrage with fennel, parsley, butcher's broom, asparagus, milium solis and barley and afterwards in summer with ivy berries before the berries have begun to blacken. Give it to the patient to drink with lukewarm white wine. But if you wish to test it, put into the (pig's) bladder a similar stone . . . . with the aforesaid blood and you will find the stone reduced to powder within seven days &c.

For those who piss blood from the kidneys or bladder.

Make hydromel from a decoction of the tincture of succory, smallage and bramble with fig juice. Let it be drunk daily for it cleanses the urinary tract well as Avicenna bears witness.

A wine of decoction . . . . aquatica, anise . . . . with juice of pellitory quickly provokes urine.

For the disease which (*is called*) chaudepisse. (Plate II, fig. 2, right column.)

R. [*Parsley and boil it*] in water [*until*] it is turned [*into a mucilage*] let it be well shaken with oil of roses or violets and then add [*to it*] the milk of a nursing woman āā., in which [*liquor*] camphor is dissolved and inject with a syringe.

For those who cannot retain their water. (Plate II, fig. 3, right column.)

R. Let him take frequently in pottage the burnt hooves from pigs'

* These passages are undecipherable from injury to the MS.

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feet and a powder made from them. He will be freed (from his infirmity) but he must abstain from everything which provokes urine. Apply this plaster over the kidneys. R. Acorns, psidium, balaustine, acacia, roses, bole, and holly ana ℥iiii; lapidanus (?) lb. iii. Mix them with myrtle syrup and make a plaister. Use it with barley, oats, almond, pirus, lemon and purslane.

Let it be used with a heavy wine and plenty of water. Item, a powder of the bladder of a bull, pig or goat with a decoction of acorns taken as a drink soon helps, and it should be boiled, if necessary in rainwater. I have tried it many times.

Note, that according to Alexander* acorns are styptic as is seen in strangulated . . . . and chestnuts equally but to a less extent.

For prolapse of the Rectum. (Plate II, fig. 4, right column.)

Make a fomentation of galls, psidium, balaustines and comfrey.

Seethe them in rainwater and vinegar.

For any cause leading to prolapse of the rectum.

Let the patient be bled from the saphena vein at the outside of the ankle and give a [*fomentation of galls, oak, bark, pomegranate and comfrey infused in rain*] water.

In cold cause wine with sulphur. Make a fumigation with psidium and galls.

In hot cause with vinegar let balaustines be given with psidium; for consoldatives (*bugle, daisy*) and comfrey in water.†

Against severe and intolerable pruritus ani. (Plate II, fig. 5, right column.)

R. Juice of celandine, tapsibarbastus‡, strained honey āā. Boil each of them to dryness and then take them off the fire and put them aside for future use. When you want to use it for pruritus take as much as you want to use and put on it powdered burnt vitriol and burnt copperas. Boil them together again if necessary until a firm ointment is made. Put a little on the anus, and the itching

* Alexander of Tralles fl. sæc: vi A.D.

† Henry IV suffered from Prolapse of the rectum, so the condition excited a good deal of attention at the time this MS. was written.

‡ Moth Mullein used for coughs and spitting of blood.

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will certainly cease, and even pruritus in every part of the body. This ointment is called TAPSIMEL from Tapsibarbastus and mel (honey). Forsooth, this is a notable and noble ointment.*

Against Rupture. (Plate III, fig. 1, right column.)

R. The four consolidating juices† and polypody‡ āā. Crush them together in a mortar and put oakbark and rubia major§ āā. ℥ii into the powder. Wash them with the best red wine that can be procured. Put them in a glass vessel and let them stand for 4 days . . . . from the day of putting on the iiii consolidating juices and polypody. And when you wish to operate give it to the patient to drink and place the lees over the rupture with a bandage applied secundum artem. Do this for nine days and the rupture will be cured.

A health drink to be used daily.

R. Hyssop and horehound for the chest; catsmint and absinthe for the lungs; mint . . . . and smallage heals the belly; sage and . . . . heal even the stomach and bowels.

A good prayer to be said. (Plate III, fig. 2, right column.)

O God, Who hath wonderfully created mankind and hast more wonderfully reformed him, who hath given medicines to govern the health of men's bodies, of Thy great goodness look down from Heaven and give Thy blessing to this antidote *or* electuary *or*

* Arderne's tapsimel survived him for many years and was in use until the middle of the eighteenth century. Alleyne says in the "New English Dispensatory" (London, 1733, p. 336): "Powers of scabious, *Valentia scabiosæ:* The Powers of mullen, *Tapsi valentia*; and honey of mullen, tapsimel were the contrivances of John Arderne, an experienced surgeon at Newark in Nottinghamshire, who lived in the reign of Edward III."

The formula for making tapsimel, as given by Alleyne is: "Take of the juice of celandine and one part mullen, of despumated honey two parts: boil gradually till the juices are evaporated: adding thereunto, if the operator pleases, calcined vitriol and alum with copperas and again boil into an ointment. It will certainly cure itchings in any part of the body and is a most noble ointment," says the author.

† The four juices were those of Consolida major [Comfrey], C. media [Bugle], C. minima [the daisy], and C. Regalis [larkspur].

‡ Polypodium quercinum—the Oakfern. It was used in many decoctions, diet drinks and medicated ales.

§ Mangiota (?) Bengal madder.

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potion, &c., that the bodies of those whom it shall enter may be worthy to receive health of mind and body through Christ our Lord. Amen.

This confection is useful for headache and likewise for madness and for rheum of the eyes (Plate III, fig. 3, right column) and also for causes in the ears and teeth; and for paralysis and for all who are in any way abnormal. It also relieves those who cough, those who suffer from mouth or liver troubles and the pleuritic. It relieves fevers and colds and poisoned bites. It is very inimical to the bites of venomous animals and of a scorpion and snake; [it relieves] the leprous and those afflicted with impetigo. It is even serviceable for bleeding whether from the mouth or from piles or in a pregnant woman. It stops all fluxes of the belly and it is also good for the arthritic, the nephritic and the sciatic. It brings relief to the gouty (Plate IV, fig. 1, right column):—

R. Of confection magma* of long and round pepper; balm of Gilead āā. ℥iii; ginger and florentine orris ℥ij; opium; agarick and eastern aloes āā. ʒiii; cinnamon bark, peony, lily root, white pepper, dittany, and oleaster epithem.† . . . . aristolochia longa āā. ʒxii; myrrh ʒiʊ; squills; asafoetida; celtic nard‡; sweet smelling juncus; chestnuts and goldilocks. Spikenard, gum arabic, acacia āā. ʒ8; sugar and cinquefoil āā. ʒvi; peony, rhubarb, calamint, turpentine, yellow gentian, aniseed, cinnamon, carpobalsam,§ tragacanth; cardamon seeds; meadow saxifrage; gum arabic; storax . . . . smallage; calamint; elecampane; galls; cypress; laurel berries and flowers, &c. asphalte; galbanum; St. John's wort . . . . savory and silphium and cyperus āā. 4 ounces; opoponax three ounces, ammoniac three ounces. Two to three drachms may be given to an adult according to his strength. Give it to him hot whilst he has the flux on him but cold for others.

* Magma—the sediment.

† An Epithem was a moist and soft external application which was not an ointment or salve.

‡ The Celtic nard had virtues similar to Valerian.

§ Carpobalsam the fruit of the Balsam tree growing in Syria and Arabia felix.

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Against Spasm i.e. Cramp. (Plate IV, fig. 2, right column.)
Bryony root seethed in water and afterwards crushed [by itself or] with Agrippina* and with oil of [linseed] or with marshmallow ointment or oil of lilies or camomile applied to the neck as a plaister cures the cramp in whatever limb it occurs because the origin of all nerves is in the neck and cramp is due to a contraction of the nerves at the roots.†

The following CHARM has been found most satisfactory in cases of cramp by many who have used it both in foreign countries and at home.

Take a sheet of parchment and write on it the first sign ⊞ Thebal ⊞ Suthe ⊞ Gnthenay ⊞. In the name of the Father ⊞ and of the Son ⊞ and of the Holy Ghost ⊞ Amen ⊞. Jesus of Nazareth ⊞ Mary ⊞ John ⊞ Michael ⊞ Gabriel ⊞ Raphael ⊞ The Word was made Flesh ⊞.

The sheet is afterwards closed like a letter so that it cannot be readily opened. And he who carries that charm upon him in good faith and in the name of the Omnipotent God and firmly believes in it will without doubt never be troubled with the cramp.‡

* See page 9.

† It is noticeable that the writer of this 1412 MS. has altered the physiology of the passage, for the Sloane MS. states that the source of all diseases is in the neck, and cramp is due to a contraction of the *muscles* at their origin.

‡ The section on the treatment of cramp by a charm is much abridged. The writer has omitted the fact that Arderne obtained it from "a certain knight, the son of Lord Reginald de Grey de Schirloud near Chesterfield, who was at Milan with the Lord Lionel, at the time when the Lord Lionel, son of the king of England, married the daughter of the Lord of Milan. The English there were troubled with spasms due to their potations of the strong and hot wines of the country and of too many carouses." The knight had with him the following charm and saw a certain gentleman so troubled with the spasm that his head was drawn backward nearly to his neck, just like a crossbow, and he was almost dead from pain and starvation. And when the said knight saw this he brought the charm written on parchment and placed it in a purse and put it on the neck of the patient whilst those who stood by said the Lord's Prayer, and one to our Lady Mary, and as he swore faithfully to me, within four hours or five he was restored to health." Lionel, Duke of Clarence, married Violante, the daughter of Galeazzo Visconti at the door of Milan Cathedral on June 5th, 1368.

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Against Bleeding Piles. (Plate IV, fig. 3, right column.)
Moisten the finest wheaten flour* with juice of millefoil and make it into pills and give three or four of them daily in the morning moistened with wine of the decoction of millefoil or of plantain or of shepherd's purse, or of nettles or (*of periwinkle*).
And phlebotomy should be performed from the basilic vein of the arm on account of the previous materies morbi and afterwards from the saphenous at the outer ankle. The tibial saphenous diverts the hæmorrhoidal flux and permanently restrains the piles. Note that all authors say that remedies which restrain the piles also restrain the menses and vice versa.
Against Inflamed Piles. (Plate IV, fig. 4, right column.)
Wash (the part?) in the juice of parsley and salt set aside whilst hot until it has cooled, and let this be renewed many times and this is a sure remedy for swollen piles. And if powdered (cummin?) is put on it or added it will act all the better.
Powdered hare—burnt—stops the bleeding from piles better than anything. It should be mixed with white of egg, and with unburnt hare's fur and placed over them with butcher's broom or with a light stupe.
It is relieved by the yolk of a hard-boiled egg to which oil of roses with saffron has been added. Rubbed up separately and applied on wool this relieves in all causes in a wonderful manner. Note that for the pain of piles nothing cold should be applied.
Against Sciatica. (Plate V, fig. 1, right column.) In the first place let the materies morbi be digested with syrup of fumitory and afterwards purge it off with a vomit and then with a laxative made as follows:—
R. Hermodactyl† two parts; turbith‡ and agaric§ one part. Give

* White wheat is called Siligo; the red Triticum; the gray bearded wheat Ador or Pyrus—the word here used, Ador, was the purest and finest wheat.

† Hermodactyl probably colchicum as it was considered a specific for gout. It was a cathartic and was of three kinds white, yellow and black.

‡ Turpeth was a root with properties similar to hermodactyl but somewhat more active. Where Agaric failed Turbith took effect and when this was insufficient Colocynth was given.

§ Agaric was the fungus growing on the Larch tree—Polyporus officinalis. It was given as a cathartic. The dose was ʒi-ʒii.

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it to the patient and then make a soothing plaister to be placed over the sciatic, made thus :—

Camomile and herb ivy a handful of each; the yolks of four hard boiled eggs and breadcrumb with vinegar. Make a plaister and then cauterise as you know how to do.

Against Gout. (Plate V, fig. 2, right column.)

Take a sufficient quantity of black soap and add to it as much of the yolk of raw eggs as equals one half of the quantity of soap. Mix them thoroughly together in a box or bowl until the soap has lost its colour. When this is done spread it thinly on a strip of linen with a spatula or the thumb and apply it forcibly over the painful part. But over this plaister put a protective layer made of the white of egg and wheaten flour on a linen cloth. Let this be applied firmly above the aforesaid plaister to prevent its removal before the proper time unless any need for doing so arises.

Against Gout from a hot cause.

R. Horsefat or marrow and mix saffron with it. And if it be from a cold cause mix Euphorbium with the fat.

In gout from either cause.* A plaister of green laurel and honey made with the lard of a male pig.

Being rubbed in a certain abbot was freed of gout in the foot in a single night so that he could ride next morning.†

Of Arthritic Inflammation. (Plate V, fig. 3, right column.)

A certain priest cured all his patients who suffered thus from a cold cause with the juice of the flowers of broom and honey cooked together until the honey was dry.‡ He anointed the place with it and in good sooth I have often proved its value.

Against arthritic and sciatic inflammation, and against dryness of the nerves and tension of the nerves a plaister is useful compounded of wax mingled with oil of decoction of herb ivy and

* i.e. hot or cold.

† Arderne says that he himself cured this abbot. He thought so highly of the ointment that he advises its composition to be held "privy and precious and show it not but to thy son or to one as well beloved."

‡ Arderne does not claim to have used it, but says that "Maister Roger saw the cures of the said priest and afterwards wrote of them that they were sooth."

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powdered cinnamon or of wax and cinnamon only. It should be applied to the painful part whenever it hurts.

A Ruptorium* [*is made in the following manner.*]

R. Let quicklime after burning be well mixed with black soap with a spatula by placing on it a little fasting spittle. Keep it well rubbed until it becomes tolerably thick and then set it aside for an hour. Then rub a little butcher's broom into the ointment and make a round pill as large as you wish the hole to be. Put a linen cloth over the place where you want the hole and fix the cloth with diachylon. Make a hole just in the middle of the cloth as large as the hole you require in the limb as is here depicted:

Against gout. (Plate V, fig. 4, right column.)

Make a Clyster whether the cause is hot or cold and for all pains in the joints as well as in all serious wounds whether in the head or of the muscles or nerves and in all injuries caused by shaking, and always in every operation let a clyster be the first thing. A clyster made of milk and honey with a little salt injected through the anus purges equally well the choler, phlegm and melancholy.

To kill Worms in the Belly. (Plate VI, fig. 1, right column.)

Barberry, zedoary seeds† powdered and drunk with milk and it is best if it be drunk with mare's milk. It kills all worms and snakes living in the human body.

Item. Garden nasturtium or watercress drunk with the seed of earthworms‡ kills all intestinal worms.

Note that in all cases of difficulty in pissing black soap vigorously beaten up with pitch and afterwards placed over the navel in the shell of a large nut (walnut§) and tied on speedily makes the patient pass urine and in all retention of urine provokes its passage. (Plate VI, fig. 2, right column.)

* A Ruptorium was employed to destroy the skin over an abscess in preference to incising it.

† Zedoary consisted of the roots of Kampferia rotunda. It was in great repute as a remedy for rheumatism. There is no mention of the seeds being used.

‡ The seed of earthworms does not occur in the earlier texts.

§ Gloss.

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I have tried it on one king* and two bishops in foreign parts. And note that the stuff ought to be warm when it is applied, because warm applications are soothing and solvent.

I† once saw a young man who had a stone lodged in his penis as large as a bean which could neither be passed through the eye of the penis nor could it be pushed backwards but stuck in the middle of the penis, as is here depicted:—

I easily cured him too by an incision. (Plate VI, fig. 3, right column.)

I put the youth on his back and tied the penis on each side of the stone with linen threads to prevent the stone escaping elsewhere, and, having made a small incision over the stone with a lancet, I squeezed it out and afterwards secured the outer skin over the hole with a needle and thread. I then applied an astringent of white of egg and finely ground flour having previously placed next the wound powdered dragon's blood and bole and cotton. I wrapped up the penis in an old and thin piece of linen wetted with the aforesaid astringent and sent him away in peace for three days.‡ Also in another dressing I loosened and removed the stitch and with the aforesaid powder or with white ointment or gum arabic I completely cured him in fifteen days.

And you need not be alarmed even though urine comes through the wound for three or four days, for the patient will certainly be cured.

When the penis or vulva is inflamed, with heat, redness, great swelling and excessive pain. After puncture take a slender wooden clyster pipe such as is here depicted (Plate VI, fig. 4, right column) and inject some warm milk and warm water with it between the prepuce and the glans. Squeeze the orifice of the penis at the end of the prepuce with your finger to prevent the fluid escaping too much and do this twice at each sitting.

* The king was presumably John of Gaunt, titular king of Castile; we have no means of determining the identity of the two bishops.

† This history is here told of an individual and not impersonally as in the earlier MSS.

‡ i.e., did not dress him for three days.

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Afterwards take oil of roses and put it into the bladder of the enema and put it with the clyster pipe into warm water and when it is warm inject the contents as I have said.

When this is done take a piece of linen as wide as six thumbs' breadth and smear it well with the ointment of the yolk of a raw egg rubbed up with oil of roses. Wrap up the penis and afterwards support it in a bag so that the head of the penis does not hang down and thus increase the swelling. Repeat this once a day generally in the evening it will effectually relieve the pain, heat and other bad symptoms and will assuredly produce a satisfactory discharge without any further addition. It is a great help too, if the penis be fomented daily with a decoction of mallows, violets, [*henbane*] and bran.

Ascertain as soon as the prepuce can be retracted whether there is an ulcer or vesicle beneath it, then mingle powdered aloes with the sharp white ointment and let them be well incorporated together. But if the cure is to be brought about as quickly as possible breathe the saphenous vein at the inner ankle in both feet. This form of phlebotomy is very helpful and should in no wise be omitted.

Some affections of the Testicles and their Purses. (Plate VII, fig. 1, right column.)

They also suffer from ulcers, excoriations and pustules, itching and many other bad conditions like erysipelas, herpes and wounds.

They may also be hurt by dog-bites or from castration in some people. It also happens that both testicles swell though occasionally only one is enlarged, but this happens from injuries like mounting a horse or from a blow or from wateriness. Be it noted that always in every operation (upon them) blood should be taken from the vein behind the inner ankle of both feet, if it can be done.

For swollen Testicles. Make a plaister of bean and barley meal with unpurified honey mixed together. Add a little vinegar; make the plaister and apply it hot, but first anoint the part with oil of roses.

To reduce redness and excoriation of the Testicles. Oil of

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violets beaten up with the egg mixture is a good application after the parts have been fomented with warm water. Also powdered tannin with rotten oak wood i.e. Worm,* mixed with the best honey is useful in excoriation of the penis and testicles for it soothes and dries excellently.

Note that according to authors a botch in any part of the body becomes converted into a fistula or cancer if it be not cured within three or four months. When, therefore, there is a botch of the anus or outside near the anus it may be recognised by these signs, scilicet; swelling, pain, heat, itching, and pricking. (Plate VII, fig. 2, right column.)

Note, too, that a botch forming below the ANUS is cured with an infusion of the oil of roses in which white lead has been incorporated or burnt lead or litharge or any of them if they can be had [*mixed*] with white of egg. But caution him against straining at stool.

Also if the belly is constipated, it may be relaxed with a plaister of mallow and hog's lard or with a watery decoction of mallow and bran and fresh butter or by giving this kind of clyster.† (Plate VII, fig. 3, right column.)

A powerfully soothing ointment.

R. Rub up one or two handsful of common domestic mallows in a mortar and when they are sufficiently pounded leave them for 7-9 days in a quart of common oil until they putrefy. Then boil them on the fire for a long time until the oil is of a good green colour and afterwards strain and set it aside for use.

This ointment is good for soothing the pain of botches and it softens them if it is applied on lana succida.

Note that the wool which grows between the thighs of sheep and is soaked with their sweat is called "Lana succida" and not washed.

An Ointment useful for wounds and cancerous ulcers and for those botches which bleed and for the malignant carbuncles which are called plague tokens and for botches caused by bad materies morbi. It is made thus:—

* "Worm" is added in English.

† The prescription for the clyster is omitted by the scribe.

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R. Three ounces of the oldest hog's lard. Let it be [*mingled with vitriol*] ℥iv and laid over a fire [*and cleansed and ground*] in a brazen mortar strongly and afterwards mix it with lard after taking it off the fire. And a fruitful ointment will be made which does not ball, but if it is wished to make a harder ointment, i.e., a plaister add wax and black pitch because pitch is able to draw from the lower to the upper parts and the same doth vitriol.*

Alum Water is made thus:—R. Take as much alum as is required. Rub it up well, add eight parts of good strong vinegar and boil it in a pot over the fire until only the half remains. Then take it off the fire and strain it. It is called Aqua aluminis and is used for itching, scabies from salt fleum, and this water cleanses when it is warmed.

An injury to the leg which I cured in a nobleman when he had suffered from it for eighteen years. (Plate VIII, fig. 1, right column.)

I first removed the flesh down to the bone with an ointment of roses and I scraped it every day. And one day when I was scraping the bare bone with an instrument it moved upwards and downwards. I watched this remarkable node but for the rest I gave up any further operation and put nothing over the wound except licium† mingled with new honey and the yolk of a raw egg applied on carded linen stupes and I did this from day to day until the aforesaid bone with the flesh receding from it, appeared at the end of the wound and became more and more moveable. And when I saw this I put the point of a scalpel under the edge of the bone and raised it little by little. But that piece of bone was four thumbs in length and two thumbs in breadth and in thickness it extended nearly to the marrow of the bone and it was the front of the tibial bone i.e. Schynbone. After the separation

* The scribe has written calcantum by mistake for vitriolum.

† "Licium," says Arderne, "is made thus:—Take the leaves of capsifoil and bruise them in a mortar and press out the juice and put it in a brazen vessel or of glass and dry it in the sun and keep it for use. It is the best medicine if the fingers of any man forsooth have been long unhealed of unwise care, or of negligence of the patient after that the bone is taken out."

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of the bone I finally closed the wound with a licium dressing of honey, &c. and the yolk of raw eggs.

Against a stinking, itching, granular, sanious and serpiginous ulcer. (Plate VIII, fig. 2, right column.)

When no other remedy was of any use I well washed the whole of the spreading ulcer and vigorously applied to it a powder of realgar mixed with black soap. The patient suffered great pain for twenty-four hours and his hand was much swollen by the pain and heat. And when I saw this I put on the yolk of a raw egg with oil of roses and I anointed his hand with the said oil. At last a separation began round the edge of the ulcer and the aforesaid remedy did no harm to the healthy skin, but only that part died which had been affected. But continuing the dressing with yolk and oil of roses all the skin of the hand came away easily and was completely separated without injury to the nerves or veins, And when it had separated I dressed the wound with yolk of egg and honey of roses most delicately mingled and abstracted. I kept it in place with strips of lint between the bones and completely cured the patient.

After consolidation I applied a diachylon plaister softened with an ointment of mallows and lily &c.

I cured a man from Northampton* of the aforesaid Fistula in ano who had three openings in the left buttock and three in the cleft of the scrotum as is here depicted (Plate VIII, fig. 3, right column) and all in turn (communicated) the one with the other and had perforated through the middle of the rectum. I cured him by incision of all the holes both in the rectum and elsewhere.

Blood welled out strongly from the incision in the rectum because the fistula was very deep. I, therefore, dipped a sponge in cold water and swabbed up the blood; afterwards I put on the wound a blood styptic of powdered madder &c. and a good sponge having

* From another manuscript we learn that this patient was John le Colier who was Mayor of Northampton in 1326-7 and 1339-40. He seems to have been a most regular attendant at the meetings of the Town Council because his name appears as a witness to thirty-three documents between the years 1315 and 1340.

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been placed under the patient (he was made) to sit in a chair and immediately the bleeding ceased. When he had taken food the invalid was put to bed and slept well all that night without any bleeding [*forsooth*] and in the morning he said he was "fine,"* &c. Afterwards, however, viz. on the second day after the operation I filled all the wound with powder "sine pare"† and with oil and egg and sal. populi‡ and with diaflosm§ and in less than twelve weeks I cured him completely. And he said, indeed, that twenty doctors had treated him and he had been operated upon by ten. Nevertheless he rode on horseback about the fortieth day after I made the incision.

And note that I have cured ever so many with the remedies here prescribed.

For Piles at the Anus. (Plate IX, figs. 1 and 2, right column.)

A certain man had a pile on his nates which sometimes discharged blood and sometimes matter and it was like the morus celsus which is in English the molbery. I dressed him with pulvis grecus at night and in the morning the pile was half mortified. I plucked it out with my fingers gently but firmly and when it was gone a little black blood escaped but after the flow of blood I applied the greek powder and the bleeding was stopped, and over the powder with a

* Bene.

† The powder "sine pare" or in French the "Poudre sans pere" was a stimulating powder of arsenic and vitriol. Arderne says of it "this powder is called peerless for it hath no equal in its working. For why, it mortefieth and bringeth out dead flesh or superfluous or putrid in all wounds and ulcers. And wit you that this powder beguileth never the patient nor the surgeon, for it doth not wickedly. For why, if the surgeon be uncunning and put his powder in a wound or in an ulcer not having dead flesh, it doeth no harm to the wound or the ulcer.

‡ "Salus populi" was a salve containing the juice of the Chelidonium majus. Arderne used it for lips scorched by the sun or chapped by the wind and "it availeth against the burning by fire. This ointment would I never want for the many benefits of it. And wit thou that it is the best remedy to them that have the emerods or the fistula."

§ Diaflosm is the plaister used as a local application whilst tapsimel [v.p. 30] is the confection for internal use. Both seem to have been invented by Arderne.

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layer of vegetable wool intervening I put the Narbonne* plaister spread upon a linen cloth to preserve the powder and prevent it from escaping and thus with a continuance of the said treatment he soon became convalescent.

The Greek Powder is made thus :—

R. Yellow orpiment; black pepper; quicklime and barley meal āā purified honey 3 parts with one quarter of wine. Mingle it with the preceding powders to form a paste and make a cake. Heat it upon a hot tile over a slow fire so that it does not scorch and when it is ready to be powdered crush it on a stone and when it begins to blacken on the tile let it be turned frequently, so that it does not burn, until it is quite dry; then reduce it to powder and keep it.

With this I have cured those [*piles with*] increasing bleedings [*and other bleeding swellings in*] the palm of the hand; and this powder mortifies watery superfluities wherever they occur.

Against the bite of a mad dog or other animal. (Plate IX, fig. 3, right column.)

A leek chewed in the mouth and put over the bite avails much. Item. Rub up dead nettles with salt and apply it. It heals well, and extracts the venom.

Item, for every [kind of] bite let the patient drink powdered potentilla root in wine, and terra sigillata does the same if used with tapsibarbastus† on the wound seethed in water or in wine. It extracts all poison. Or use any other remedy which has been or will in the future be recommended which you may have better.

* The Narbonne plaister was a particular favorite with Arderne. It was diachylon boiled with oleum siriacum "and when it hath boiled enough," as there were no clocks or watches in his day, take it off the fire and let it stand still without moving for "the space of a pater noster and Ave Maria, that the litharge of the lead that is in it may be descend to the bottom. This plaister is called Noir-bone for though it be black nevertheless it is good," which was Arderne's little play upon words. The oleum siriacum may have been the oleum syriæ the fragrant essential oil obtained by distillation from the Dracocephalum moldavicum.

† *Vide* p. 30.

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Against the bite of a Toad.* (Plate IX, fig. 4, right column.)
Rue drunk with water or cooked in it, and chew some rue. Put bruised rue on the bite with honey or salt.

Against the stroke of a scorpion. (Plate IX, fig. 5, right column.)
Three or four drops of blood are to be drawn immediately close to the stricken place and then are to be smeared over the place struck.

Honeysuckle, too, bruised by itself, and with all its parts without the addition of anything else placed on severe stinking ulcers of the leg which bleed and are discharging and increasing in depth to the nature of cancer

I have happily and wonderfully cured them when they were obedient to no (other) remedy.

I proved this also on the shin of a certain nobleman who had a pustule which everything had failed to cure, and yet was cured with this one. For the pustule dried up and ceased to smell the first time it was applied; all the bad symptoms disappeared and within a month he was completely cured, etc.

It happened that a certain man had **a botch in the bend of the knee** as is here depicted (Plate IX, fig. 6, right column) which it was difficult to break. I dressed it with a maturing plaister and afterwards broke it with a ruptorium† and squeezed out the matter, and then with a wooden tube I filled it up from the bottom even to the top with [*a mixture of wheaten flour and*

* "The Toad ugly and venomous bears yet a precious jewel in his head." But if the Toad was ugly and venomous and its bite was thought to be dangerous, it was much used in medicine. The powder of a dried Toad taken ʒss at a time or more cures almost all incurable dropsies, carrying away the water by Urine, the ashes of them burnt is better. A dried Toad steept in vinegar and the belly of it laid to a carbuncle draws out the poison: smelt to, it stops bleeding at the nose, especially laid to the forehead or behind the ear or held in the hand till it is hot, or hung about the neck. The ashes or powder do the same laid upon the part that bleeds. Laid to the Veins it cures the dropsy: to the Navel fits of the Mother: laid to the soles of the feet it helps distempers of the head and heart and cools the heat of fevers. The Ashes hung about the neck (as an Amulet) cures pissing a bed or the not holding of the water.

† Page 35.

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clarified honey] and I incised it through the middle of the skin into the wound* and put on it a cloth soaked in white of egg. In the morning when it was removed I dressed it with a powder made as follows:—R. green copper vitriol, orpiment and alum [*and over it charpie*]† and afterwards a plaister made thus:—R. Juice of smallage; mugwort danewort and thus with these remedies to wit the powder and the plaister he was soon afterwards entirely cured, but if you prefer it you can cure it well enough with diachylon after it has been incised.

But it must be noted that in such part as you intend to cut you must be careful of that large vein which is called the cephalick‡ and runs through the thigh to the tibia and which lies near the large muscle,—not to cut it as it lies on the leg, as is here depicted (Plate IX, fig. 7, right column).

And a certain man had a swelling in his leg after scratching in consequence of a pruritus with redness; there was a pustule with heat and it exuded drops of water. Many applications had been used for a long time without improvement and it was said by some to be the malum mortuum§ &c. At last being seen by a certain friar Minor he made him a plaister of sempervivum i.e. rhubarb,‖ well pounded with the fat of a ram and hog's lard and bran (cooked together) and applied warm and it soon brought him back to health. The best plaister is

R. juice of smallage, wormwood, mugwort, nettle, walwort with honey and white of egg āā. to which rye meal has been added.

. . . . . *cloth and to remove it and as often to*

* The scribe has omitted the fact that Arderne wished first to incise the swelling and afterwards to use another ruptorium, the patient refused the one and tore off the other.

† Carpina. ‡ i.e. Saphena.

§ The malum mortuum must, I think have been gangrene. Arderne, like the other practitioners of his day as well as the public generally, had a great dread of its occurrence. It was also used in its French form as Mormale for Chaucer says of the Cook in the Prologue line 386 "But great harm was it as it thought me, That on his schynne a mormal hadde he." In the case of the Canon Arderne adopted the treatment still used for callous ulcers: he cleansed it, applied firm pressure and dressed it with a stimulating ointment.

‖ "Rabarbe," added in English.

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cleanse it with a dry] cloth and to dress it again; and thus doing he never felt anything soothe it or do it so much good before. And thus he was cured, &c.

A certain Canon (Plate X, fig. 1, right column) once on a time fell ill and when he began to get better a great collection of descending humours fell on his shin and after some time brownish and broad pustules and nodes appeared. And when I saw them I told him that it was the malum mortuum, and I made him a cure which has the name of Dyuelyn.

And the cure is this for the malum mortuum:—

First bind up the patient's leg firmly and rather tightly with linen rag. . . . . Then wash the leg well, and whilst it is bandaged, with warm water—as hot as the patient can bear. After it has been bathed let him lie for a natural day—for one day and one night—taking great care that the leg is not exposed to the air or to cold. And on the second day remove the rag and cleanse the wound or all the wounds if they are numerous and put into each wound a small piece of linen moistened with cold water which should be changed twice a day, removing the ointment, cleansing the wounds and filling them with a piece of wet linen morning and evening until it is healthy. Afterwards put some of the ointment round the wound upon the healthy skin so that the inside of the wounds are never touched by it at any point so that it may co-operate with the moistened linen mentioned above.

This is the ointment:—

R. Copperas, salt of nitre, broom ashes, ashes of a black snail, atrament* āā. one part, a little greek green and quicksilver as much as any one of the previous ingredients and hog's lard double in amount of all the rest put together. Dissolve over a fire and then mix them all well together with the lard. And then when you have mixed the other powders put in some pitch and the ointment will become black.

With this ointment made in the aforesaid manner I have entirely cured large wounds of the shin such as are here mentioned; but smaller wounds with Lanfrank's green ointment.

* Ink, a sulphate containing powdered galls.

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But be it noted that in a severe wound such as is here depicted:—with the cure by Dyuelyn I purged him pretty often from the feast of St. Mark the Evangelist* to the feast of St. Margaret the Virgin.† There was dead flesh in the centre of the wound of a livid colour and as broad as a penny which could not be cured by any of the aforesaid means, but began to re-infect that part which was already healing. Then indeed I put on some powdered arsenic mixed with black soap upon charpie. After two or three applications the edges of the wounds began to fill up and became of a livid colour mixed with red. And it so happened that where the arsenic touched the wound it acted with great energy, but nevertheless did no harm. Afterwards I applied meadow saxifrage daily for a fortnight until the dead flesh began to separate from the edges but that dead flesh was very thick and when I saw this I cut a little off the top with a razor. Then I put on some lard and so at last with lard and cutting I wholly removed it. When this piece of dead flesh was removed I worked away again with the same DYUELYN ointment and linen rag soaked in warm water until nearly to the next feast of St. Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist‡ when the wound was no broader than a penny and then again it began to break out at the sides and increased until it was nearly as large as it had been on St. Lawrence's day.§ And when I saw this I dressed it four times with a powder of litharge mixed with white ointment and I placed upon the wound a piece of clean linen as large as the wound and moistened with herb Robert‖ water. This dressing seemed to me to be more useful and better. The edges of the wound healed and grew together until they became quite sound, etc.

It sometimes happens too that a **Gutta Fistula** (Plate X, fig. 2, right column) forms in the fingers of boys and girls often at the lower joint¶ next the hand and makes sinuses in the skin on one

* April 25th. † July 20th. ‡ Sept. 21st. § August 6th.

‖ Herb Robert a geranium was used to cure the Ruprecht's Plage, so named from Robert Duke of Normandy for whom the whole school of Salernum wrote the Regimen Sanitatis. It is sometimes called Sancti Ruperti herba.

¶ i.e., Metacarpo-phalangeal.

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side and sometimes on both sides. But when you see sinuses on both sides you know that the patient is incurable unless it is entirely removed through the finger joint where it joins the hand. But if the bone of the hand near the finger* is also affected, it is incurable unless it too is eradicated.

There is not much to be said therefore about the treatment of such cases as to their cure. For I have rarely seen any escape death when this disease has once become obvious because they soon die of a flux either dry or restricted. The digits of the hand or foot or the leg or any other limb in which such a fistula forms stinks badly. It has a narrow orifice [*which is either white or red and when they are stopped the patients become pale*] in the face and they get thin and feeble.† The same condition often occurs in the leg, knee, foot and ankle. I have cured it in the shin and foot and at the ankle (Plate XI, fig. 1, right column) but in the ankle it broke out again after a time and even sometimes at the knee. I once cured a gutta fistula in the shin and over the ankle and foot with a plaister of Sanguiboetes‡ and a powder which was made thus:— R. Orpiment, sulphur, quicklime and black soap āā. powdered together and applied twice a day round the wound. I also rubbed in common oil or white ointment until the patient was restored to perfect health as has been told. I also gave him drink of Antioch§ and he quickly recovered his health.

* i.e., Metacarpal.

† This shows that tuberculous disease of the bones usually ended in general tuberculosis or in death from septic absorption as was frequently the case in tuberculous disease of the hip until our own days.

‡ Arderne nowhere gives the formula for this preparation.

§ Drink of Antioch was made according to the following receipt:—

Take one handful of daisy and one handful of bugle and one handful of fennel and half an handful of hemp and as much of oats, as much of tansy, as much of herb Robert, as much of madder, as much of comfrey, four branches of orpine, six crops of briar, six crops of red nettle. Seethe these herbs in one gallon of white wine to a pottle and afterwards add an equal quantity of clarified honey. Mix them together and steam it a little. It was used for the wounded and bruised in doses of three spoonfuls in six spoonfuls of water. "And look that the sick man be well kept from gouty meats and drinks and from women." The drink was clearly intended for knights and men of high degree.

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To relieve a rankle.*

R. Cummin well powdered with breadcrumb, chestnut, honey and white wine. Boil them together to dryness and then add pig's blood q.s. Boil again and apply to the rankle on stupes or pieces of linen.

For a hot aposteme or a hot swelling.

R. The Yolks of hard-boiled eggs, virgin wax, purslane, smallage ℥i–℥ss. Dissolve them all in oil of roses over a slow fire after they have been well pounded together. A plaister is then made and applied and this is useful for an inflamed gout and it soothes a red swelling of the legs.

R. Oatmeal gruel warmed in vinegar with [*mutton*] suet and applied. It relieves greatly.

Against tearing of the nerves and immeasurable pain.

Such a plaister as this may be used:—

R. Refined honey half a pound; naval pitch āā. of braised beans and cummin āā. ℥iii. Prepare it thus: Dissolve the pitch with the honey over a slow fire and when they are thoroughly dissolved add the rest in powder [*stirring and kneading them well together*] and make a plaister.

Against an indurated swelling from cold cause.

R, Mallows and marshmallows, parsley, fenugrek, violets, fresh butter, white wax and pig's blood. Make a plaister for the swelling whether from a blow or from gout. First anoint the part with warm refined honey and afterwards sprinkle over it the aforesaid powder of myrtle berries, pennyroyal and cinnamon. Bandage &c. It should be noted that these kinds of remedies are called **Sinapisms.**

A plaister which is strongly maturative to relieve an inflammation.

Take linseed and pound it well in a mortar into a powder, then cook it to dryness and afterwards add marshmallow root, i.e. holyhok.† Remove the hard core and boil the rest thoroughly

* A RANKLE was a festering sore. The word is only used figuratively now and as a verb.

† Contemporary gloss in English.

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by itself; then boil as many eggs as are necessary to make the quantity required. Take their yolks separately and rub them all together. Afterwards take hog's lard and rub it thoroughly with all the other constituents until a sort of paste is made. When this is done and applied lightly it will for certain be found of wonderful virtue and strongly healing.

For a swelling of the arm after bloodletting. (Plate XI, fig. 2, right column.)

Seethe Althea in water until the water becomes very viscous then in the strained water seethe oats for a long time until they are reduced to a thick poultice. Bind up the arm with this applied on a piece of linen. When the arm is swelled after bloodletting be careful not to apply anything cold but seethe hot wheaten bread-crumb just out of the oven in styptic wine to make a sort of paste. When it is cool put it round the swelling. Very cold applications may also be applied to prevent the passage of blood and humours to the damaged part.

If the swelling become windy and many of the humours assemble there remedies which generate matter should be applied, such as plaister of mallowflowers and also wormwood infused in boiled water and afterwards prepared with hog's lard. This causes the discharge and the materies morbi to evaporate through the pores. It assuredly comforts the place and is most certainly serviceable in all botches if you can get it.

Against a swelling after letting blood.—Let all the surrounding part be well anointed with warm oil of roses and wrapped up in a piece of linen soaked in hot white wine.

Against pain from puncture of a nerve [*in the arm after blood letting*] or in any other limb from other punctures.

Make a plaister of honey and roots of danewort, althea, bryony or lily.

For all pain and in any place apply to the swollen arm after bloodletting:—

The tops of leeks i.e. the heads and cook them in tow or in ashes and afterwards pound them and then let them be roasted by themselves in a pan and applied hot.

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Let a [*ripening plaister*] be made of wheaten flour with roots of lily, honey and oil or butter or pig's blood prepared altogether on the fire and applied hot. It ripens (inflammation) everywhere and if you cannot get all these roots take impromptu whichever you can for you may do well with one of them even if you cannot have them all.

Lana succida soaked in oil of rue and applied to the swelling of the nerve hurt during bloodletting or by any other puncture in any limb of the body is certainly excellent as a remedy.

Of Those who are Pregnant and of Labour.
(Plate V, fig. 1, centre column.)

This is the first kind of Labour (Plate V, fig. 2, centre column). It is the best and most natural of all kinds especially as when labour begins there is nothing to be afraid of unless the midwife should pull down the hand.

The midwife, &c.

The second kind of labour (Plate V, fig. 3, centre column) is equally good when it occurs. The midwife should be careful when she reaches the hand to grasp it and so deliver it, &c.

The third kind (Plate V, fig. 4) is when the child lies transversely. What is to be done?

The midwife, introducing her hand, should adjust it and if she finds the head nearest she should grasp it or draw down the feet.

The fourth kind (Plate VI, fig. 1, centre column) is when she finds both hands protruding. What should the midwife do then?

Catching hold of the two arms with her hands she should push him back adjusted with her hands, as I have said above, and seizing his head should pull it out gradually and gently. If the child has a [*very small*] head and if both arms present the midwife, having first introduced her hand, ought to adjust the head at the mouth of the womb, and having grasped the child's hands she should endeavour to prevent the head from blocking the vulvar orifice. But the whole body of the child is born easily when the hands present first.

The fifth birth (Plate VI, fig. 2, centre column). What should be done when a hand protrudes?

The midwife is usually instructed never to take hold of it nor to pull upon it more than twice so long as the head is unborn lest the mouth of the womb become blocked. For it is in this very attempt that she is able to dislocate the child's hand so that it escapes from the uterus. This is a serious mistake on the part of the midwife. You would do better, therefore, if, fixing your fingers in this way you press him back and so arrange him in

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the pelvic cavity that his hands lie along his sides as they are born and seizing the head attempt to draw it out.*

The sixth birth (Plate VI, fig. 3, centre column). What should be done if the child descending by its feet in any part of the genital canal [vulva] the rest inclines towards the body ? †

As I have said before, the midwife should introduce her hand and turn it.

The seventh birth. (Plate VI, fig. 4, centre column.) What should the midwife do if one foot prolapses and is even seen.

The midwife should never lay hold of it and try to extract it lest the rest of the body of the child should be shut up in the womb. But rather with the finger inserted into the child's groin let her press it upwards and introducing her hand seize the other foot and grasping both feet attempt to deliver them.

The eighth birth. (Plate VI, fig. 5, centre column.)‡ But what should she do when he puts out both feet ?

The midwife having grasped the groins with both hands bends them upwards and having arranged them, as I have said, delivers them.

The ninth birth. (Plate VII, fig. 2, centre column.) What should we do if, when the feet are widely separated, the soles are fixed within the genital canal [vulva] ?

The midwife introducing her hand brings them together and arranges them at the mouth of the womb.

The tenth birth (Plate VII, fig. 3, centre column) is when he sits on his nates or haunches.

The midwife introduces her hand, seizes and pushes the child backwards, and having corrected the position of the hands and feet delivers it. If there is more than one, if there are two or three or four together at the mouth she compresses them, as I have said above, pushing them all back into the vaginal cavity and so causing them to be born one at a time. The midwife should do this gently and without roughness. She should, therefore, frequently pour over the parts themselves warm oil or juice of

* The whole passage is so corrupt that it makes nonsense as it stands. The MS. reads: "Quintus partus. Quociens manum emittit quid faciendum est? Principaliter jubetur ut nunquam eum teneat obstetrix; nec abducat plus. ii. relicto intus capite orificium matricis obturatur. Nam est in ipso conatu exarticulare infantis poterit manum aperire ut eum de utero evadat. Culpa obstetricis insolens efficiatur. Melius ergo facis & si hujusmodi infixis digitis eum retrorsum removeat & intus capacitatem vulve positum ita componat ut manus ejus ejectis lateribus jungat & apprehenso capite foras conari incipiat." The meaning is sufficiently clear and is to the effect than when a hand protrudes the midwife must not pull upon it, for if she does it may be dislocated or even torn off and the result will be seen as soon as the child is born.

† This passage is also corrupt.

‡ By an error of the photographer this part of the manuscript is duplicated so that this figure also appears as fig. 1 in the centre column of Plate VII.

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fenugrek, or boiled linseed and mallows. For with such care both the birth of the children is facilitated so that they are born safely and she who bears them is saved from trouble and shock. For we have known very many children born after a very difficult labour and we have seen them live.
The eleventh birth (there is no drawing of this presentation) is the same as, &c.
The twelfth birth. (Plate VII, fig. 4, centre column.) What should we do when the child is doubled up ?
A boy may be doubled up within the vulva in two ways. If we find his little bottom at the mouth of the vulva let the doubling up be made from the lower part of his body; when the hands and soles of the feet are found doubled up within the mouth of the womb let it be from the upper parts.
There is a second form of doubling up and the midwife can correct it so that with the soles of the feet pushed upwards she thus grasps the head and so delivers the child.
The thirteenth birth. (Plate VIII, figures in the centre column.) If it lies transversely what should be done ?

[*If the belly is foremost*] or if it lies on its back the midwife gently introduces her hand and turns it on the side. If there is room enough for the midwife to introduce her hand she can easily arrange the position according to the ideal plan and grasp any part which is nearest or suitable and draw it to the mouth (of the uterus). But she seeks principally the child's head, grasps it and delivers it. We say that she does better when the head is found, but if the feet are the nearer let her grasp and deliver them. And if there are two or more the operation should be performed according to the afore-mentioned rules.

MS. ends.

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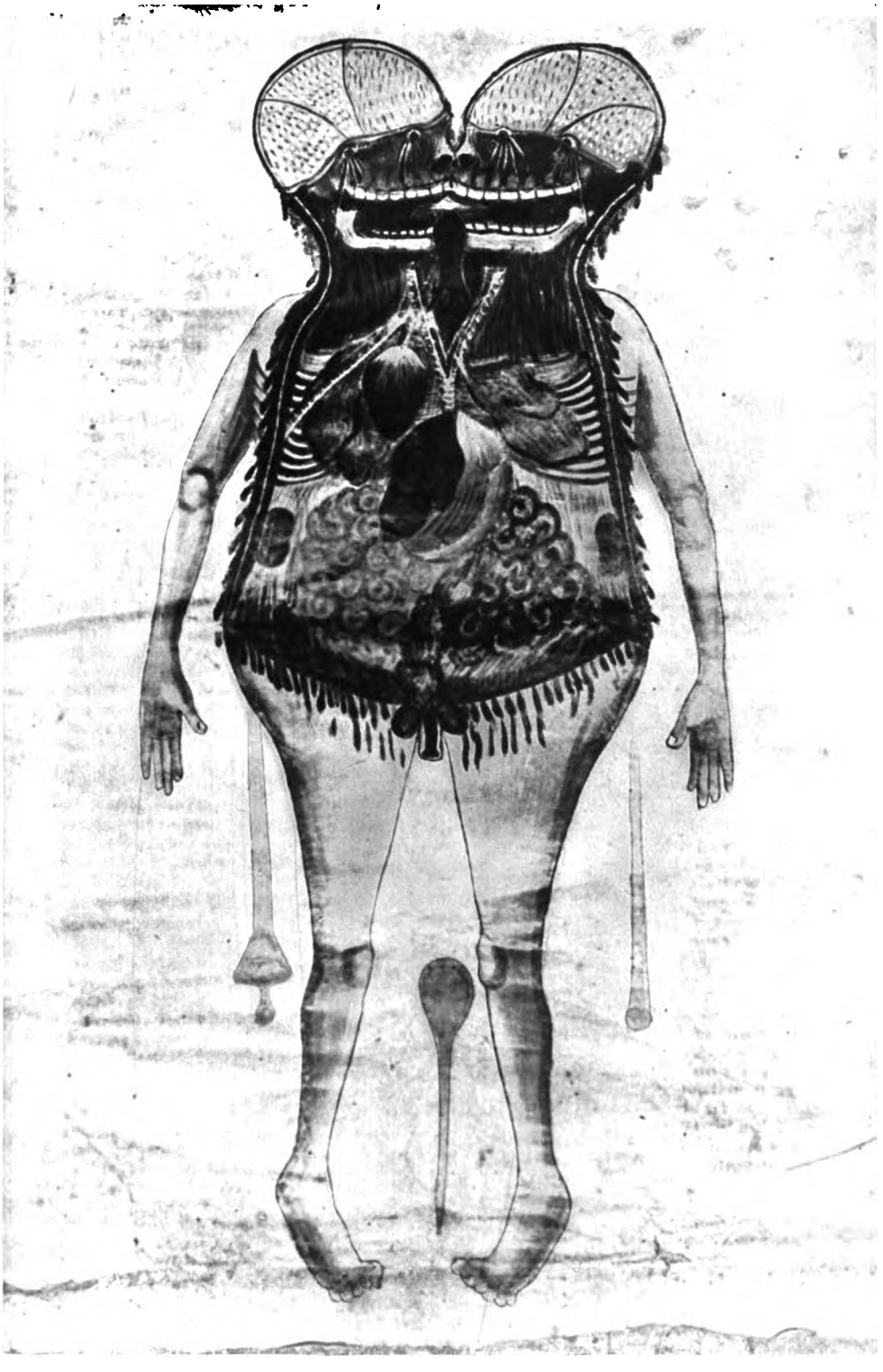
PLATE XIII.



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Old Japanese medical officer's sword.

Presentations.

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presented by Miss Buchanan.
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Relics of the late Dr. Ward Cousins, F.R.C.S.
presented by Mrs. Ward Cousins.
Portrait, brass plate, manuscript, instruments, etc.

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Portrait, microscope and surgical instruments, etc.

Relics of Dr. Edward Jenner.
presented by Mrs. Awdry.
Silver spectacles that belonged to Dr. E. Jenner, and other relics.

Gold lacquered Japanese inro.
presented by Arthur A. Haserick, Esq.

Native case or shield for the arm used by the Dyaks.
presented by Dr. Charles Hose.

Old hypodermic syringe.
presented by Dr. C. Jacomb Hood.

Old clinical thermometer.
presented by J. D. Malcolm, Esq.

Collection of Red Cross relics of the Franco-Prussian War, 1870, badges, etc.
presented by Dame Geneviève Ward.

Red Cross flag of the hospital ship "Gloucester Castle."
presented by Mrs. Back.

Bronze tally of admission to the Botanical Gardens, Amsterdam, 1771. Replica of medal of Dr. Hermann Boerhaave. Wax impression of the seal of the Medical Academy of Leyden, 1670, etc.
presented by Professor van Leersum, Amsterdam.

Glass breast reliever XVIIth century.
presented by R. T. Gunther, Esq., M.A., F.L.S., Oxford.

Original specimens of alkaloids discovered by Pelletier and Caventou, 1820.
presented by J. D. Marshall, Esq.

Autograph letter of Sir Humphry Davy, Bart., F.R.S.
presented by Sir William Tilden, F.R.S.

Engraved portraits of Dr. William Heberden and Sir William Watson, Bart, M.D., F.R.S.
presented by Sir Humphry D. Rolleston, M.D., President of the Royal College of Physicians.

A Peruvian charm with two witch dolls.
presented by Dr. E. Escomel, Arequipa, Peru.

Prescription written for Arthur Wellesley, afterwards Duke of Wellington. (Replica.)
presented by the Rev. F. Fielding-Ould.

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Medicine men's pouches from Ankole, crocodile's egg and other ethnological objects. (Mackie Ethnological Expedition, Central Africa.) presented by the Rev. John Roscoe, M.A.

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Collection of old chemical apparatus used by Dr. Daubeny in Oxford.
The President and Council of Magdalen College, Oxford.

Model of a Dressing Station on Vimy Ridge.
Lieut.-Colonel F. Brereton, R.A.M.C.

Collection of medals of Andreas Vesalius.
M. H. Spielmann, Esq.

Collection of Hispano-Moresque drug jars.
F. W. Mark, Esq.

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